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ARTICLE I.

INSANITY AND HOMICIDE.

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PROVIDENCE, R. I.

In August last I was requested by the Attorney-General to hear the evidence which he presented to the grand jury, touching a homicide committed by a young man, in a neighboring town. From this evidence and my own personal observations, I have compiled the following history of this interesting case.

THE PARTIES.

C. A. and V. A. were cousins, the sons of respectable, thriving farmers who had always lived in the same neighborhood, and were, respectively, twenty-three and twenty-five years old. They had been very intimate and fond of each other from childhood, and had the reputation of being remarkably correct and amiable young men. They had been at the mines in California, and while there had lived together much of the time. V. came home in the spring of 1855, and shortly after, became a merchant's clerk in Boston. C. came home on the 9th of June, 1855, and resided in his father's family.

INCIDENTS OF THE HOMICIDE.

On the 13th of August, V. came to his uncle's house on a friendly call, between nine and ten o'clock, and after conversing with some of the family, went into the corn-crib where he met C. Shortly after, he was

seen walking away from the crib, and when a few rods from it, he was struck down mortally wounded by a shot fired from the window of the crib, by C., and died about twelve hours afterwards. This was the second time the cousins had met since their return from California.

CONDUCT OF THE PRISONER ON THE OCCASION.

While they were raising the wounded man, C. came out of the crib, passed by them and went towards the house, but said nothing and offered no assistance. He soon went to his room as usual. To the question repeatedly put to him, why he had killed his cousin, he gave no other reply than to say that "they had had no difference." The gun had been kept in the crib, and was not carried there by him. During the two days that elapsed between the act and his arrest, he appeared as usual, and though strongly urged to fly by those who were not aware of his real condition, he showed no desire to go. When taken by the officer, he made no resistance nor objection, but wept a little. This was the first time he had shown any emotion. When questioned by the officer, he said that the act was accidental,—that he put on a cap to try the gun, and it accidentally went off. V., during the few hours that he lived, said repeatedly that he could conceive no reason why C. should have shot him,—that they had always been on good terms, and that nothing passed between them while in the crib, calculated to irritate him. He merely asked C. if he had been to see the girls.

CONDITION OF C. BETWEEN THE 9TH OF JUNE AND 13TH OF AUGUST.

On his return from California in June, his family and others observed a notable change in his appearance and demeanor. Though naturally cheerful and lively, interested in his friends and fond of society, he had now become shy and taciturn, avoiding his friends, and evincing no interest in any person or thing. The most of his time he spent in his room alone, occasionally going out to fish, or to work on the farm, and once or twice he visited a neighbor. He seldom came down to see persons who called on him, and when, out of doors, he observed any one approaching, he would avoid him. He refused to see an old acquaintance who called three times, and his own relatives he treated in the same manner. A married sister and her husband, neither of whom he had seen since his return, visited the family, and he scarcely spoke to them during the six days they staid. In order to see him at all, they were obliged to go to his room. All the witnesses who had previously known him, as well as some who had not, stated that they

thought him, at that time, strange and singular. Some of them, in fact, expressed their apprehension that he was losing his reason.

He kept his bed much of the time, and was often heard at night, pacing his room; had, at first, some diarrhœa, perspired much, and complained of headache. He refused to take medicine.

CONDITION IN CALIFORNIA.

From the few witnesses who had known him in California, it was impossible to gather a complete account of his mental condition while there. None of them had much communication with him, and they could give only a few facts that incidentally came under their notice. One witness stated that the change in his manner began to be exhibited during the summer of 1854. He became silent, secluded himself from company, worked irregularly, and spent much of his time in bed. Witness accompanied him in the journey home from California, and represented him as manifesting no interest nor forethought in the arrangements. When they reached Sacramento he seemed bewildered, and had to be directed at every step. Witness bought the tickets. On board the boat he kept aloof from everybody, and when spoken to, he got up and moved off. While at San Francisco, he showed no wish to go out of the house, and did not call upon an uncle living there. Here, too, the witness had to buy his ticket, as well as at Panama. Through the whole journey he was silent and indifferent about every thing. After having arrived at New York, and engaged their passage in one of the Fall River boats, they proceeded to a clothing-store to obtain such articles as they needed. While there C. was suddenly missing, and the witness, being unable to find him, went home alone. A few days afterwards, C. made his appearance at his father's house, and subsequently told the witness, when inquired of about this affair, that he had got lost. Witness was told by another man that C. asked him if he had heard V. say anything about a girl, and, at the same time, said that he (C.) heard folks say, as they went by, that he had fallen in love with a girl, who died in consequence. This same man also stated to witness that C. would sometimes talk to himself about this affair. Another witness testified that once he went to his cabin to spend an evening with him and his companions. C. soon went out and staid outside all the time he was there. Had heard other people speak of his peculiarities.

On the morning of the inquisition before the grand jury, I visited the prisoner in the county jail. I found him a stout, strongly-built young man, with a ruddy face, and having, at first glance, the aspect

of high health. I soon observed that he averted his eye, and that his countenance had a dull, vacant look. He sat down before me, bending forward, with his arms on his knees, and his eyes turned to the floor. I put to him various questions, beginning with ordinary topics, and ending with his health, his relations to others, his feelings to his friends and relatives, and his motives in killing his cousin. In no instance did he reply without a long delay, and when the answer came it was very brief, and, for the most part, very indefinite. To many of my questions I got no reply at all. When asked if his friends or anybody else had worried him in any way, he replied that they had not. After the question had been repeatedly put in different forms, he finally admitted that they had "talked about him." "When they went by my cabin they said, 'What do you make out of this fellow?'" This was all I could get out of him on that point. When questioned about the homicide, he replied that it was accidental, but offered no explanation. At the beginning of the interview the pulse was 110, but before I went out it fell to 100. He was perspiring very freely, though the weather was not hot.

Having heard the evidence, I testified that, in my opinion, the prisoner was insane when he committed the homicidal act. The grand jury did not indict him, and the next day his friends brought him to this institution. When they took him from jail, he made no inquiries as to where he was going, expressed no wish of any kind, walked through the streets without the least interest in anything he saw, and came to the hospital without a single remark about it.

CONDITION IN THE HOSPITAL.

Here his deportment has been uniformly correct, and his manners gentle and gentlemanly, though very quiet and retiring. He manifests the same reluctance to converse, and seldom speaks, except in reply to questions, and then only after a long pause. He spends much of his time in reading books, which he selects himself from the library, but until lately has showed no interest in the news of the day. At first he kept himself aloof from other patients, but, after a week or two, he would join them in a game of cards or draughts. He frequently goes out to work on the farm, but, of late, has declined going, unless in company with a gallery-attendant, instead of a farm-laborer. When out he is very diligent and does his work well. The Sunday services, and lectures at other times, he constantly attends, though he declined at first. During the first ten weeks he saw no one whom he had ever seen before, and made no mention whatever of his family or friends.

At the end of that period he was visited by some of the family—his father, mother, uncle and aunt. He shook hands with them all, but asked no questions, and manifested no interest in what was told him.

Twice only have I conversed with him respecting his mental experience and the motives of his conduct. He spoke with great reluctance, pausing long before replying to my inquiries, and declaring, rather emphatically, that he did not wish to converse on the subject, as it was very painful to him. In the first interview I endeavored to ascertain the range which his suspicions had taken. After a tedious questioning, I obtained nothing more than the admission, without any explanations, that his parents had not treated him exactly right. At the second interview, after some inquiries which led to nothing, the following questions and answers passed between us. Having first assured him that the only object I had in view was his own welfare, which I represented as being deeply concerned in my knowing the truth, I presented other considerations to the same effect, which need not be stated.

Q.—Was the shooting your cousin accidental, as you once told me it was?

A.—It was not accidental.

Q.—Had you thought of doing it previous to that interview in the corn-crib?

A.—No.

Q.—Were there any differences between you? did he annoy you in any way? It is said you lived happily together in California.

A.—There was something.

Q.—When did it occur?

A.—[After a long pause]—Seven or eight years ago.

Q.—What was it about?

[No reply; countenance flushed; much agitated.]

Q.—Was there a young lady in the case?

A.—Yes.

To all further inquiries on this point, he steadily refused to reply.

OBSERVATIONS.

Had this case occurred in the ordinary manner, and unaccompanied by any homicidal act, no one, with a professional knowledge of the subject, would have hesitated to regard it as one of unquestionable insanity. Of all the indications of this disease, he manifested the strongest,—a striking change of manners, habits, conduct and appearance, without any sufficient cause. When, in connexion with this

trait, we consider the loss of all interest in his friends and customary pursuits, his unconcern respecting things which once would have concerned him deeply, his quitting work and lying in bed, though without any bodily ailment, his taciturnity and avoidance of his friends, his dull and vacant look,—considering all these, the existence of the disease seems to be beyond a reasonable doubt. How far this view of the case is affected by the homicidal act, is a point not quite so clear. That an insane man should commit such an act, certainly is not very strange, but we must be satisfied that the circumstances of the act do not militate against the supposition of insanity. If the prisoner had acknowledged the act, and given some reason for it drawn from his delusions, it would justly have been regarded as confirmatory proof of the disease. On the contrary, he denied at first that the act was intentional. It is not usual, certainly, for the insane to deny their bloody deeds. Acts of petty mischief perpetrated in their calmer moments, they will frequently ignore, and with some ingenuity, perhaps; but when urged on to some fearful deed by that overpowering sense of its necessity which springs from strong delusion, they acknowledge and justify what they have done. If the prisoner had shot his cousin under the belief that he was one of those who had annoyed him in some way or other, we should have expected that he would instantly and openly declare, "I killed him designedly, and he richly deserved his fate. I am satisfied." Supposing, therefore, his subsequent admission to be true—that the shooting was really intentional—it is a question of much importance, whether the first statement is compatible with the existence of insanity. After a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the case, I cannot see in this fact a sufficient reason for doubting the correctness of my opinion respecting the prisoner's mental condition. It is probable that he was governed by a sudden mental movement, more or less directly connected with his delusions, for it is obvious that the act was not premeditated. The sight of his cousin, while his mind was harassed with suspicions and apprehensions, called up some old passages between them which, probably, had never raised an unkind feeling in the heart of either; but then, by a confusion of ideas not uncommon with the insane, they led him to associate his cousin with those who were disturbing his peace and destroying his comfort. The means and opportunity concurring at that moment, he obeyed the impulse thus suddenly produced, to sacrifice a persecutor. Now, it is well known that when an impulse of this kind has passed off, and the person has become conscious of the havoc he has committed, it sometimes happens that he is ashamed of,

and frightened at the consequences of his conduct, and, under the influence of those feelings, endeavors to conceal it, and, perhaps, takes to flight. His mind was not so far deranged—after the violence of the homicidal paroxysm had subsided—as to prevent him from seeing and appreciating the legal consequences of the act, though even these could not arouse him from his habitual listlessness, and inspire him with the requisite energy for avoiding them. He did, therefore, what was consistent with his apprehensions and the temper of his mind,—he denied that the act was intentional, and passively waited for the result. When, subsequently, he found there was nothing to gain or to lose by telling the truth, he admitted that the act was intentional, and assigned a very inadequate motive for his conduct,—a motive which, under the circumstances, is clearly indicative of insanity.

It may possibly be regarded as a suspicious circumstance, that his victim had become obnoxious to him, not by being associated with those who were embittering his existence, but by reason of an old event which, probably, had long since ceased to excite any hard feeling whatever. Usually, no doubt, the maniac seeks for the objects of his vengeance among those whom he believes to be engaged in machinations destructive of his present peace. Actual occurrences make less impression upon his mind than the images that crowd upon his dis-tempered fancy, and a real enemy excites less emotion than one of his imaginary tormentors. But neither observation, nor a knowledge of the laws of association will warrant us in saying, that, in the mind of the maniac, old grudges never get mixed up with present delusions. In his readiness to mistake the subjective for the objective, he is apt to overlook the single step which separates real wrongs and annoyances from such as have only a delusive existence. We know very well that, in some forms of insanity, the patient finds his grievances among incidents and events that made no impression, apparently, at the time, and had been almost forgotten by every one else. After the lapse of weeks or months, an innocent remark, or look, or gesture is called up, and ingeniously tortured into a damning proof of hate and hostility. We may fairly suppose, therefore, that in the present case, an old love-passage suddenly obtruded its rekindled heart-burnings among the suspicions and jealousies that agitated the distracted mind, and thus prompted the fatal deed.

Had the case gone to trial, this old affair would probably have been presented as furnishing a rational motive for the criminal act, and thus invalidating the plea of insanity as a ground of defence. Leaving out of view all the positive indications of the disease, it would be sufficient

to say, in regard to this point, that the subsequent intimacy between the parties, and the declarations of the dying man, show that the wound had been healed, if it had really existed. However suspicious this denial of the intention may seem to those not much acquainted with insanity, it will be regarded in a very different light, I think, by all who have had the opportunity of witnessing, on a large scale, the operations of the insane mind. Difficulties like this are not uncommon in cases which are subjected to judicial investigation. Not unfrequently the medical jurist is puzzled by some particular incident or trait, apparently adverse to the general conclusion which is warranted by all the other phenomena of the case. It only shows how multiform is nature, even in its wanderings, and how feeble are our conceptions of its infinite variety.

ARTICLE II.

TRIAL OF WILLARD CLARK, INDICTED FOR THE MURDER OF RICHARD W. WIGHT, BEFORE THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CONNECTICUT, HELD AT NEW HAVEN, SEPT. 17, 1855.

From the published report of this trial, prepared by H. H. McFarland, assisted by the counsel for the State and Defense, we are enabled to present to our readers an abstract of this interesting case.

THE MURDER.

About seven o'clock in the evening of Saturday, the 28th day of April, 1855, Willard Clark called at the house of Mr. John Bogart, entered by the front door, and proceeded to the back room, where Mr. Wight, Mrs. Wight, her mother (Mrs. Bogart), and a daughter were sitting at tea. Clark bid them good evening, and in about ten minutes the party proceeded to the front parlor, followed by Clark, who began to walk the room, back and forth. Mrs. Bogart and her daughter having occasion to leave the room a moment, Clark went towards Wight, who was at the time stooping forward to tie a bundle, placed a pistol to his head, and fired, the ball entering the head on the right side. Clark walked calmly out of the house by the front door, and was arrested in his own store by an officer, who conducted him to prison. The pris-

oner, at the time of this arrest, appeared perfectly cool and self-collected. Mr. Wight lingered in an insensible condition until Tuesday, May 1st, when he died.

HISTORY.

The earliest account we have of the prisoner commences with his twelfth year, when he was employed by the Rev. Mr. Croswell as an "agent," with the hope that this occupation might aid him in preparing himself for the ministry, for which, it seems, his mother designed him. He continued thus employed three years. At the end of the second year he became a communicant of the church. During Mr. Croswell's acquaintance with him, he possessed a good character; his disposition was kind and amiable. With this, however, he had singular traits, was exceedingly sensitive, easily exasperated, and had periods of depression. After leaving Mr. Croswell, and being employed as a grocery clerk three and a half months, at the age of eighteen, Clark went to Chicopee, for what purpose it does not appear. Very shortly afterward an attachment was formed for a young lady, to whom he devoted much attention, so that it had the appearance of intended marriage. In April, 1847, this lady (Miss Scott) went to Maine on a visit to her friends, with the intention of soon returning. She did not return, however, and, in the latter part of the summer, intelligence was received that she was married, which produced upon the prisoner extreme depression of spirits. He was unwilling to believe in the truth of this report, and determined to go to Maine to ascertain for himself its correctness. Accordingly, in September, 1847, he reached Orono, Maine. His visit was characterized by the same depression of spirits, which now existed to such a degree that fears were entertained that he would commit suicide, or some other violent act.

The various depositions taken at Chicopee and in Maine establish the fact that this event produced a powerful impression upon the prisoner, at times unfitting him for the performance of his accustomed work. During the remainder of his residence in Chicopee he was frequently observed to weep; at night he paced his room, and acted, as the witnesses state, strange, and wild, starting up suddenly, and walking his room hurriedly and irregularly.

In the Fall of 1848 he went to reside with Mr. Parmalee, a grocer, in New Haven, who employed him as a clerk one year and a half, when Clark took possession of the store. He resided during this time in the family of Mr. P., who occupied a part of the store. From the constant, familiar intercourse existing between them, Mrs. Parmalee

speaks of him as bearing a reputation for industry, and possessing an amiable disposition. His religious convictions had, however, evidently been undergoing a great change, for he began to express opinions decidedly sceptical in their character.

After the removal of Mr. Parmelee's family from the store, Clark continued to occupy the house and store, living usually alone, cooking and preparing his own food, as well as performing other domestic duties. Of his success in business, or his manner of conducting himself at this period, we are unable, from the evidence, to form an opinion.

An occurrence took place, however, in October, 1850, which attracted attention to his mental condition. Owing a debt of \$225, he went to his creditor and requested him to attach his store, in order to secure his debt; he assigned as a reason that his brother, who assisted him in the store, must leave him,—that he feared he should have a difficulty with him unless he did, and the result would be, he should kill him. The witness who testifies in regard to this occurrence expresses the opinion that, from the sincerity of his manner, and the strangeness of his appearance, Clark was at that time insane. The conversation was a brief one, of half an hour's duration, and during a further acquaintance of six or seven years, nothing further occurred to call in question the prisoner's condition.

HEREDITARY PREDISPOSITION.

The mother of Willard Clark died when he was fifteen years of age, and, from the interest she exhibited in his religious welfare, was probably a pious woman. Of the brothers nothing is stated. The father of the prisoner was personally known to several of the witnesses. It is testified of him that he was in the habit of wandering about from place to place, was inattentive to business, and subject to paroxysms of excitement, which different observers were unable to state whether or not were connected with indulgence in drink. These paroxysms appear to have been followed by periods of depression and taciturnity.

In 1851 Clark made the acquaintance of Miss Bogart. She was then twelve years of age, attending a school in the neighborhood, in going to which she was obliged to pass Clark's store, and called in there frequently to purchase small articles for her mother.

From some peculiarity of her manner, he seemed, at this early age, to have formed an attachment for her, which appears to have been reciprocated, and in 1852 an agreement of marriage was entered into. The testimony of Mrs. Wight is of sufficient interest to justify its insertion in her own language. In her cross-examination by the coun-

sel for the defense she states: "I was fourteen years old when I left school. It was in 1851. I knew Clark when I was twelve years old; had seen him frequently before that. It was not very often that I went into his store on errands. He first began to show me attentions that attracted my observation in 1852. He had shown me politeness before. He had called me into his store before this, sometimes when I was going to school. I never thought, previous to 1852, he had an attachment for me. Previous to 1852, he used to call with things occasionally, purchased at his store. During the summer of 1852 he avowed his attachment to me. He commenced waiting on me 4th July, 1852. I went to Waterbury, a day or two after the 4th, with Miss Barrows. I staid one week. Returned with Mr. Clark. He came up after me and remained one night. He said that he had business that way, and he would come and see me. He brought me home in the cars. Previous to this time he had said nothing of an attachment for me. During this time he wanted me to talk with him. It was at Waterbury. He wanted me to talk with him about an attachment. I told him I would not. I don't recollect whether he proposed marriage then. I declined to talk with him on the subject of marriage. I told him I should not talk with him. In the course of the summer Mr. Clark renewed his conversation on this subject. I told him I would ask mother. I did ask my mother. She said she had no objections, if he loved me well enough, had a good character, and could support me as a man ought to support a wife. At the next interview I told him what mother said, and entered into an engagement of marriage."

In July, 1852, Mr. Wight came to live with his brother-in-law, Mr. Wilson, who occupied the same house with Mr. Bogart's family. An intimacy soon commenced with Mrs. Bogart's daughter. Mr. Wight was on friendly terms with Clark, and the attention paid Miss Bogart was by his permission. Clark continued his intimacy, and by various presents—such as an accordeon, locket, bracelet, and other little things—and by providing a dancing and music-master, showed the sincerity of his affection. The conduct of Clark towards Miss B. seems, in the mean time, to have been undergoing some change, so that in May, 1853, she began to exhibit a repugnance to his society, often refusing to see him when he called, and, while in the room with him, showed a disinclination to converse. Remonstrating with her upon this, he occasionally asked if Wight called. He was answered that he did.

Mrs. Wight alleges that the immediate occasion of breaking the engagement of marriage, which occurred Jan. 1st, 1854, was the possession by Clark of printed verses of an improper character, which he afterwards presented to her, and the attempt, on his part, to take in-

proper liberties with her. A refusal, on her part, to submit to this resulted, at the time, in a threat of violence. Of her determination to release herself from the engagement of marriage she, on several occasions, informed Clark, as well as of her loss of affection for him. She testifies that "soon after the engagement was entered into, Clark was rather fretful sometimes. It was some time before the engagement was broken off that I made up my mind to break it. I did tell him that I had no affection for him, some time before the engagement was broken. He insisted, on these occasions, that I loved him, and told me I must love him. Once, when I was walking with Clark, he was fretful because I didn't keep step with him."

The intimacy with Mr. Wight gradually increasing, resulted in an engagement of marriage, which was consummated March 12th, 1855.

THE INSANITY OF WILLARD CLARK.

Forty-five witnesses were called to testify concerning the prisoner's mental condition during the winter of 1854-5. The opportunities they had of observing him were various, the majority of them being his customers, and their acquaintance limited. Twenty-one noticed a change in Clark's condition, while seventeen, possessing equal facilities of observation, noticed nothing of special importance.

Mrs. Ann Hull sworn.—"I know Willard Clark; have ever since he had business in that store, and partially before. I noticed a change in him in November last. He was peculiar. I didn't like to trade there; have not much, but have occasionally. I could seldom find him in the store; he would be shut up in the office, and I would have to call him. He would not always speak. When I asked him he would stare; sometimes I would leave the store without having any answer. Always got what I wanted. Left trading there because his appearance was changed. I changed trading there 17th November. After that, traded a quarter as much as we should have done. He would look vacantly and then laugh silly; so I seldom went in there. It was during the winter that I first noticed this smile. During the winter I went in there perhaps once a week."

Cross-examined by Mr. Foster.—"Saw Clark, after November, perhaps once a week or once in two weeks, to speak with him. In November he was changed. I could not account for it. I thought a great deal of the change. I could not account for it; told my family that we must not go there any more than we could help. There was nothing in his change of appearance that could not be accounted for by a change in habits, perhaps with regard to drinking liquors. He did not appear to be interested in his business. I often

stated these things to my husband. I can't say when I first noticed this silly laugh. I repeated to my husband several times before November that a strange change had come over him, and it was painful to go there. I did not know as he always charged all the things we had. I might not have mentioned the silly laugh until after he was in jail. I mentioned it to my family. I probably mentioned it to others, can't tell to whom. I won't say that it did not occur to me that there had not been a change in his habits."

By Mr. Harrison.—"I saw nothing in his appearance that indicated that he had been drinking. His appearance would not have been accounted for, to my mind, by the supposition that he had been drinking."

By Mr. Foster.—"I never made this change of appearances a subject of conversation with Clark. I suggested to him that he should brush up there. I never told him I should leave there if he did not change things."

Samuel Short sworn.—"Have known Willard Clark fifteen years. Have traded with him lately. I have noticed things strange about him; it was, at first, in January. I would go in and ask for a thing, and he would not get it. I mentioned it to some one, and asked what was the matter of him. I noticed this along through February. In March his eyes began to be glassy in the morning; seemed so to me. I always considered him a nice, honest young man."

Cross-examined.—"The first strange thing I noticed about him was absent-mindedness; the other peculiarity was his glassy eyes."

Mrs. Mary Woodward.—"Have known Willard Clark about four years. Have traded there daily. Have noticed, through the past winter, that he has been unusually abstracted, and neglected his business, and has played on musical instruments when there were a half-dozen customers waiting in his store. Once he was in his room, and at another time in his store. I have asked him for articles; he would stare at me with a wild countenance, take up one thing and lay it down, and take up another, until I had twice called his attention to what I had come after. This was through the winter. I was in the store, and, instead of getting what I wanted, he looked at me with an unpleasantly wild countenance."

Cross-examined.—"Noticed the particular change in the spring. I first noticed any change in the course of the winter, perhaps in January; this was a perfect inattention to his business, and abstraction. Then there was a change to wildness; this was shown by his eyes and a vacant look; he talked from one thing to another, unconnectedly. I noticed it twice. Those are the only instances to which I could swear.

My impression is, that he often did it in the latter part of the time; I was obliged to be there much longer than was necessary to get things. I was in the store when he played on the musical instrument; it was a bass-viol. He put it down to serve me. I waited there ten minutes. The other time he was in his room."

Mrs. Lucy Dewey, sister of the prisoner, testified that she was with him parts of September, October, and December, 1854, and in January, 1855. "At times he appeared melancholy. I saw him several times when I thought he had been crying. I noticed the depression before the weeping. When I first went there, he slept up stairs in a back room. He changed his place, and lay on the sofa in a front room. He would not take his clothes off. I asked him why he didn't, and go to bed, he would rest so much better. He said there was no use in it, for he could not sleep if he went to bed."

On the 19th of March, Clark made a visit to Chicopee, remaining from Monday till Thursday. The weather, at the time, was inclement, yet he started without taking sufficient clothing to protect himself. While at Chicopee, his conduct immediately attracted notice. He was incoherent in conversation,—“was absent-minded,”—“wandering from one thing to another, without connection,”—“frequently laughed with himself,”—“if he was told anything, could not remember it five minutes, but asked the same questions over and over again.” He gave a gold-piece to a young lady with whom he had little previous acquaintance, and without assigning any reason. While reading a newspaper at a hotel, he suddenly threw down the paper, and strode across the room very violently several times, and then sat down, picked up the paper, and commenced to read again.

✓ On the 22nd Clark returned to New Haven. He seemed much disturbed; “walked up stairs crying, saying he could not remain there, and asked his sister if it would make any difference with her if he went away.” The visit to Chicopee had afforded no relief or comfort. The periods of weeping and grief seemed henceforth to increase. The laughing when alone also continued. He resumed his business, however, conducting it irregularly, very much as he had done for three months past.

During the winter, previous to the discontinuance of Clark's visits to Mrs. Bogart's family, he was heard to use threatening language toward Mr. Wight, in their presence: this was previous to the marriage; the occasion of it was Mr. Wight's absenting himself from the room momentarily, when Clark remarked, “That fellow will reap his reward.” Mr. Bogart asked what he had done; to which Clark replied, “He's done enough.” This occurred Jan. 1st. From this

time till Wight's marriage, Clark called at Mrs. B.'s twice; after which he called occasionally, desiring to be considered friendly with the family. After Wight's marriage, more marked evidence of his mental condition began to present itself. On one occasion he brought to Mrs. Bogart a paper, with a request that it might be handed to Mrs. Wight. In it there were intimations that Miss Bogart had been constrained to marry Mr. Wight, to victimize her. The prominent point of the paper was, that she was living improperly with Mr. W. On another occasion Clark called at the house of Mrs. Bogart with what he called a sermon. It was addressed to no one particularly. The character of it was religious.

In conversation he expressed the opinion that Wight cared nothing for his wife, that the marriage was improper, and that she ought not to leave her mother. He claimed that Mrs. Wight loved him, yet did not attempt to reconcile the fact that while she loved him she married Mr. Wight.

Mrs. Lucy Dewey testifies that "one day he was crying, and I said, 'How can you feel so, Willard?' He said his feelings were nothing in comparison with hers (Mrs. Wight). This was in April. I told him I should think she would show it sometimes; he said she could conceal her feelings better than he could. He said she was too proud,—that no one would know that she cared anything about him. I told him that wasn't rational. One day when he was crying and walking, in April, I said, 'How can you feel so, Willard?' He said, 'How should you feel to have your boy with a person who was going to be tyrannical over him all the days of his life?' I asked him if he thought Wight was tyrannical. He said he thought he was. I told him that was a strange idea. He didn't say anything.

"He used to come up stairs often in the daytime, sometimes in the evening, sit down and hold his head. I asked him if his head ached; he said it did, but it was no matter. He made complaints about his head. I did not notice it until along through April. I noticed it much during April. It grew upon him. I asked him, then, if he didn't wish to live; he said, 'What do I wish to for?'

"Three weeks before I finally went away, one evening, he came up and lay down on the sofa, and seemed to feel very wild. He shifted his head from one place to another, and rolled up his eyes. Mrs. Collins was there. She said, 'Are you sick, or are you crazy?' He didn't answer for some time, and then said, 'They are trying to roast me.' He then jumped up and ran down stairs.

"I do not know of any other cause for this grief except this girl. He spent much of the time up stairs; he walked the room, crying.

He asked me once if I didn't know that he knew more than anybody else. I told him I was not aware of it. He went down stairs and then came up, and I asked him what he meant. He made no answer, but looked silly."

On the Tuesday before the homicide, Clark called upon Mrs. Parmelee, and conversed about the marriage. It was a mystery to him: how Wight exercised so much influence over Mrs. W., he could not understand. He said they were living together in adultery,—there was no union of spirits,—and that in the sight of God there was no marriage between them. During this visit he was much agitated.

In another conversation with Mrs. Bogart, Clark said to her that her daughter was obviously unhappy; she had more affection for him than for her husband: he spoke of improper intimacy between them as the constraining cause of marriage: he had a relief for her which he did not propose to leave to any injudicious person—that she should leave Wight and live with him.

On Saturday, the 28th of April—the day Mr. and Mrs. Wight had arranged to leave Mrs. Bogart's,—Clark called at the house of Mr. Charles Beers, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M., and inquired if his son was at home. He was answered in the negative; and, on the point of turning away, when Mr. B. asking the object of his visit, Clark inquired for a pistol, to kill a starved cat about the store. On presenting both a revolving and a common pistol, he selected the latter, as being more accustomed to its use. He was furnished, also, with bullets, remarking, at the same time, that they were small, but he could make them answer by putting plenty of paper about them.

About four o'clock in the afternoon, Clark called at the house of Mr. Bogart, and inquired for the family, without having in his possession the pistol, as he himself afterward stated. Mrs. Bogart answered him that they had gone out to pay some visits, and testifies further: "He asked me if they were going to leave home that day. I told him yes, I supposed they were. He said, 'Do you want to have them go?' I said, 'Of course I would rather they should stay at home.' Mr. Clark said, 'She is young, and ought not to leave home,' and said he wanted to see her before she left home. I told him that he could not see her. He asked when they would be home. I told him I could not tell him. He said, 'I want to see the family all together before they leave.' I told him he could not. I also requested him not to come there again. I said, 'Don't come up again.' That was all that occurred in the afternoon. Between six and seven in the evening of the same day, he came in by the front door, and passed through the hall to the back room

door. He said, 'Good evening, Mrs. Bogart.' I said, 'Good evening,' and took some things that were to be packed, and carried them into the parlor. Mrs. Wight followed me, and her husband followed her. Mr. Wight said to me, 'Mother, give me half of the things; you can't put them all together.' I then gave him half the things, and he was kneeling when I left the room, tying them up. I left the room to get a cord to finish tying them. I left the front room, and went into the hall upon the stoop. I had been there a short time when I heard the report of a pistol."

He proceeded immediately to the house of Mr. Beers, handed the pistol to Mr. B., remarking that he had shot a two-legged cat. His countenance was pleasant, and he was supposed to be joking.

He was soon overtaken by an officer who observed him walking across the street into his store, where he was pursued, arrested, and afterward conducted to jail. His manner was cool and self-collected. In jail he was confined five months, awaiting his trial. During this time he was visited by several professional gentlemen, whose testimony, elicited on the trial, is of an important character.

Testimony of Rev. J. M. Garfield.—"I saw Mr. Clark in his cell. I saw him two hours, the Monday after the shooting. My object was of a religious character generally. He inquired of me if I had seen Mr. Wight. Told him I had. Asked me his condition. Told him it was thought he could not recover from his wounds. He asked in relation to the family; he asked how they bore the affliction. He said he wished to obtain the newspapers; that it was a hardship for him to be deprived of that privilege. He was afraid the editors would prejudice public sentiment in relation to the transaction. He gave me a general account of his doings on Saturday at the house; said he had been there twice. Went in the afternoon; did not find Mr. Wight and his wife at home. Went in the evening, and found them there. Described the transaction. He somewhat hesitated in saying he had intended at that time to shoot Wight. When he went there, he said, he didn't know exactly what he was about. Said it seemed to him as if there was a kind of mysterious influence over him, that led him to the transaction. He said Mr. Wight had given him serious offense. I conversed with him at different periods, sometimes more fully than at others. I reminded him that he had committed a great fault, for which he ought to repent. He said, in answer, that he didn't know as to that. I remarked, you have sent a fellow-mortal into eternity without preparation. He said, 'What of that? I don't believe in any eternity for him or any other man. If he dies, that will

be the end of him.' I said, 'You are candid to me, but you were not candid to the man of whom you borrowed the pistol.' He said, 'I did shoot a two-legged cat.' Said I, 'Do you intend to compare a fellow-mortal to a beast?' He said, 'Yes, so far as relates to his death, it will be the same.' The next day, after he had heard of the death, he expressed himself fully satisfied. He said, 'I owed him a debt, and I have paid it.' He spoke of the consequences to himself, and expressed a good deal of solicitude about the formation of public sentiment. Told him the newspapers had told the facts pretty much as he had told them. He said, he must soon get an attorney. He spoke of Mr. Harrison, and I told him I guessed he could not find another better in the city. He thought the course taken by himself, after he committed the deed, was a very judicious one; his going to his store and giving himself up, was better than to have run away. I told him he had behaved discreetly after the transaction. He expressed his satisfaction at the remark. At another time he spoke of the loneliness there.

"I have but very little to say. To tell all our conversation would take some time. Only want to say what bears on this question in my mind. Once he said, that he had abandoned the principles of his youth, and become an infidel by reading infidel books; among which were the 'Vestiges of Creation,' and some of Voltaire's works. Asked him how that suited his friends. He said that Mr. Bogart did not like it; that the young lady, Miss Bogart, didn't; that friends in the church had remonstrated with her. Said the cause of her separation from him was owing to his urging her so persistently to marry him. Said he had been indiscreet in his conduct towards her. Said he thought that though her attachment had been growing less, still her engagement to him would be a serious thing, and tend to keep her to her word.

"Said he had been injudicious in urging her so persistently to marry him. Said he couldn't remain in suspense. Wanted to bring the subject to a crisis. Said he thought that if he urged the marriage, and made it a *sine qua non*, she would marry him at once. Said he was surprised at her discharging him. Said he had made a mistake. Said he had unwisely absolved her from all her obligations, and left her perfectly free. Said he felt on this subject, after the marriage, painfully. Said he had conceived the object of going away to Massachusetts to relieve his mind on the subject, and shake it off. There he met one lady whom he thought of bringing home. Said, if he had done that he should never have committed the deed. Asked him if he had

maintained his devotion as a Christian, would he have been a murderer. No, he said, he should never have done it.

Cross-examined.—"Am in charge of St. Luke's Church, in Park Street; have been for three years past; it is a congregation of colored people, and I officiate there gratis, except when I give them something. Went to the prison to see the prisoner; went there professionally, for the purpose of administering to him in the best way I could. I mentioned to him that I had just come from Mr. Bogart's. He asked me what had transpired there; I told him I had seen the man in agony, suffering much at times. Every time I was there, *he inquired kindly about the family; did not ask about Mrs. Wight, in particular.* It was Monday forenoon I was there. What I have said here was suggested and brought to my mind by the course of this examination. I have had no word with the Counsel about this matter. I went into a religious debate with him, about his state; gave him a work—"Dr. Tyng on Christian Experience." Said he had read the 'Vestiges of Creation.' Don't know who is the author; think I have seen him; I don't want to be examined on that book. I have given no reason to anybody why I intended to be a witness in this case; did not so intend to be. I told somebody that I should have considered the prisoner's conversation as confidential, if he had received me as his spiritual adviser, but that he did'nt believe in me, or my God or my Bible, or any other man's. I never kept any account of my visits. I left off going there after I had given him Dr. Tyng's book. I might have called there a dozen times. He never refused, directly, to see me as a minister; I told him that in rejecting Christianity, and being an infidel, he threw by all ministration. I thought he wanted instruction, not argument.

Dr. John S. Butler called and sworn.—"I am Superintendent of the Hartford Retreat for the Insane. Have been between twelve and thirteen years. Had charge of another institution in Massachusetts for three years previously. My attention is exclusively devoted to the Retreat for the Insane. I saw the prisoner for the first time on the fourth of August; visited him in the forenoon from ten to twelve, and in the afternoon from half-past two till four, in the prison in this city. I do not think he knew me. I did not lead him to understand, in any way, who I was. I saw him again, August 21st, from two to four o'clock, p. m. Did not see him again until I saw him in this court-room. On my first visit I requested him to tell me all about this homicide. Our conversation extended through the three and a half hours that I was with him. He said he became acquainted with this young girl in 1851; that he was very much pleased with her; she seemed unlike

other girls; he could not get near her, she would leave as he approached her, and would shun him; he became very much attached to her, and she to him; that they were engaged in 1852, when she was fourteen years old. He said, though she was very much attached to him, he could never induce her to give him the usual tokens of affection; she was very much in love with him, but too modest to say so, and would play tricks upon him; she was very apt to try hard to provoke him. This state continued for some time, till, some time afterwards, they had a quarrel, when the engagement was broken off, which he said was a source of great distress to her; she suffered more from it than he did. He then spoke of her acquaintance with Wight, and his attentions to her; that there was an intimacy between them which continued for some time. This was after the engagement was broken.

"Then he said Wight left her suddenly, without apparent reason; that, on *his* visiting her more frequently, Wight renewed his attentions; that they became engaged and were married. He said Wight was a great scoundrel, a bad, unprincipled man; that he delighted in breaking up matches, and boasted of it; that in this case he had no love for the young woman; that he wished to do her mischief; that was the whole object of his attention to Miss Bogart. He said that Wight had great power over her; that he obtained this power by the means he used to break up the engagement; that this was to seduce her, and that he had done it. He said this was very evident, but gave no reason; he said it was clear enough. Said Wight, after he had accomplished the object, then, of course, left her; that was the secret of the cessation of attention; that hearing Clark was again renewing his calls, he renewed his addresses; that, finding that he could not again deceive the young woman, he resolved to marry her, and did so, with the intention of removing her from the care of her friends, getting some one to debauch her, and then turn her on the world. I asked him how Wight could succeed while she was so much in love with him, Clark. He said he didn't understand,—it was either by drugs, or by the fact that, when the engagement was broken off, she was miserable, and flung herself away on Wight. He said Wight was a corrupt man, an unprincipled wretch. He said he couldn't understand how her love for him could be overthrown. He said Wight had a deadly hatred to this whole family. He did not give any cause, reason, or evidence, nothing but the bare assertion. Said he felt it his duty, under these circumstances, to save the girl, at all hazards; she loved him devotedly; she hated her husband, and he tyrannized over her, and was dragging her down to

destruction. I use his words, as near as I can recollect. Said, as she was very proud and high-spirited, and much above the generality of girls, she would fall the deeper when she fell, and he must save her, some way or other. Spoke of his visits to the house, and interviews with the family. I endeavored to draw from him some evidence of her attachment to him. He could give none. The facts that he referred to as evidence of her attachment were, to me, evidence to the contrary. He said she would not speak to him when he came into the room, in consequence of her husband's forbidding it; but that, as he left the room, he caught her eye, and saw the truth in it. He said it was evident enough. Once, when he was there, she threw herself into her husband's lap and kissed him, and, as he left the room, she gave him a look of appeal to rescue her from destruction, and he determined to do it at all hazards. Told a number of other similar incidents. He gave as an evidence of her affection for him, that she once called him by her husband's name, Richard. A number of facts he adduced as evidence of her affection for him, which, to my mind, evinced dislike; but evidences of affection for Wight he quoted as evidences of love for himself.

"The evening in which she gave him that look he said he made up his mind that he would take Wight's life. Said he thought that, to be sure that he was right, he would consult some friend, and get his advice. He took a walk out into the country with a friend, Barnett, who dissuaded him from it. He then adopted another plan. It was to go to the house, call the family together, and tell the whole story before Wight, to expose Wight's villainy from the beginning. He didn't know how it would result; it might be that when Wight found himself understood, he would leave the house and this part of the country and go off, or he might get excited and get angry, have a scuffle, and that in it one would die. If Wight killed him, it would be done without due provocation, and he would lose his life. If he killed Wight, people not understanding his reasons for it would want him executed. In either case the girl would be safe. It was a matter of apparent indifference to him which way.

"I expostulated with him on this view. I said you violate the laws of God and man, the law laid down in the Bible, and the laws of the land; but he said he took a different view of the Bible doctrine about killing. Said that, in many instances in the old Testament, the taking of human life was highly commended. Spoke of the staying of the plague by Phineas' killing Zimri. Quoted from Tupper's 'Proverbial Philosophy,' from the article on Subjection:

*'Also, in the rescuing of innocence, fear not to smite the ravisher;
What though he die at thy hand? for a good name is better than the life.'*

Said that, in 'Proverbial Philosophy,' Phineas was highly commended. We had an argument about it. He said life to him was a burden, he had nothing to live for; if by giving his life he could rescue from certain destruction this girl whom he loved, and who so devotedly loved him, he didn't see as he could do anything better with it. He said it was a cheap price to pay for such a great end; it was a fair mercantile transaction; he paid for it as much as it was worth. Said he had done right in doing as he had done. People didn't understand it, and he might have to suffer. He said she was very much distressed now, but that the great trouble was the liability of exposure; that now the secret of her seduction must come out. He said that she would by and by get over it, and be glad that she was saved from this destruction; that it was misrepresented to her, and that very likely people now spoke against him to her. He spoke with surprise that she did not visit him in the prison. In all this he spoke calmly, and with every appearance of believing it. He seemed to speak with entire conviction, substantiating his opinion by assertion; his reasons were absurd. He seemed to regard it as his mission to kill Wight. The second interview corroborated this. He went over the same ground. At the first time he told his story. At the second I questioned him. I think he knew me at my second interview; think the officer who introduced me to him called me Dr. Butler. I did not take special pains to conceal myself. At this interview I asked him what chance of escape he supposed he had. He showed very little care about the issue of the trial; said he supposed that his counsel would plead insanity. I made no reply to it. He spoke of it slightly, without any interest.

"From these evidences, I came to the conclusion that, at the time of the homicide, Clark was not of sound mind. Taking the whole of his story together, I was satisfied of that fact. I saw nothing in Clark's personal appearance which might not be mainly accounted for by his confinement in prison; saw nothing in that which I should much rely on, except his entire coolness, resulting from his clear conviction that he had done right in the matter.

"Have not taken minutes during the trial; have given it my undivided attention. I find my opinion of his insanity confirmed by the evidence on the trial, which, supposing it to be true, testifies to his peculiarity of manner, &c., &c. The silly, senseless laugh spoken of is the strongest corroboration; it is indicative of disease; it is such a

laugh as is seen in an insane man; it would strike a casual observer. Other corroboration is his indifference to business; that he tells the same story about these females; and the story of his, told at Chicopee, that the women all liked him, but had the luck of getting married to somebody else. He told me the same story he told others, and it is both the strangeness and this fact that strikes me. Other appearances of distress of mind and his singularity, causing apprehensions of suicide, are confirmatory of the general conclusion. The depositions showed to my mind that the same cause, some years since, produced similar results in 1852 and in 1854. The symptoms at this latter time would be more likely to occur from having occurred before. The testimony of Dr. Croswell bore upon the point that he was sensitive; and that of Mrs. Parmalee, about his being found fault with in the store, went to show that he was disposed to morbidly sensitive feeling. Upon such an individual the effects of great grief and disappointment are more likely to be permanently depressing on the mind, than upon one of a more elastic temperament.

"Insanity, like many other diseases, is transmissible, hereditary. Other things equal, the child of consumptive or insane parents is more liable to incur those respective diseases than others,—that is, to possess the predisposition. It is rare that we find cases plainly similar to this. I recollect one case. [Dr. Butler narrated what he considered a somewhat parallel case.]

"I have one hundred and ninety-four patients at the Retreat. The majority are females; ninety are males. I have had cases exhibiting similar evidences of insanity as the prisoner's, under my charge. I often see cases of insanity, where an ordinary observer would not notice it for weeks, if he were with the patients. There are some now in the Retreat who have the liberty of the town, and there always are. There are patients there, too, who to a casual observer would give no indication of insanity. Patients are sometimes very ingenious in concealing insanity. The effort is not very frequent. I have known patients conceal it so that the insanity was not perceptible for months. When it was discovered, it was very palpable. I detected it. Men of all professions find their way to the Retreat. I would hardly put myself in the care of a physician who was a patient in a lunatic asylum; but often the advice of patients in their professions is reliable to a certain extent. The insane idea is not always prominent, and not always called out. Men are not insane upon all points, generally. Cruden, the author of the 'Concordance,' was an insane man; but his work is a monument of industry and learning.

Cross-examined.—"I had an interview with Mr. Chapman before I came down, August 4th, about this case; I came down at his request. The details of the case were stated to me very generally. Do not remember that Mr. Chapman expressed the belief that he was insane; he told me he suspected his insanity; he stated circumstances to me which led to his suspicion that he was insane. He did not designate the day when I should come down. I gave no intimation when I should come down, I think, except to my family. No one went to the prison with me. I told the jailor I wanted to see Clark; I did not tell him why I wished to see Clark; if he asked me why, I do not remember it. I think Mr. Bryan—the old gentleman—went in with me; don't know that he said anything to Clark. I did not state to Clark my object in coming there. Don't know that I told Clark that I had been told to come there; I think I told him that Mr. Harrison said he might talk with me.

"I had an impression that he might be beset with company, and would not want to talk. I did not tell him where I was from. The first visit I talked with him in his cell; the second in a room in the prison; no one was present at the first interview. I did not feel of his pulse, or inquire particularly about his health, appetite, &c., at either interview; I never have; saw no reason to do it; he appeared much as other prisoners would. Don't remember that I read the circumstances of the event when it occurred. I told him I wanted to talk to him about the trouble he was in. We talked conversationally. There was nothing of special importance about his personal appearance at either of the interviews. He told me this story, which I deemed a mass of absurdity. I was impressed by the cool, honest, evidently sincere manner in which he told his story. He manifested a general indifference about his trial, not an entire indifference; at times he seemed a little uneasy about it. I did not lead him, by inquiry, to any particular interview with the girl. It was not as punishment for what he had done that he was to kill Wight. I don't remember the time of the appeal by the eye being made. It was at one of the visits to the house. It was soon after this interview that he went to walk with his friend Walter Barnett. He said that he went up and proposed to be married to her immediately; that they had some difficulty, and then broke the engagement. He said he asked her to give him a writing.

"It struck me that the story he told was a delusion, in respect to the love of the girl for him, and as to the character of Wight. Had no opportunity of judging when his delusion or hallucination commenced; it seemed to gather strength as it went along. Do not believe he would have committed the homicide if he had not been laboring under the

delusion. I think the delusion existed for some time prior to the homicide.

"I should call this species of insanity, mania; I mean unsoundness of mind; not as I have seen mania affecting the entire mind. It was not monomania; that is where the insanity is limited to one subject.

"This is a case of general unsoundness of mind; in such cases the party may manifest ability to do business. A casual observer might mingle in one of our parties at the Retreat, and not detect the patient from the attendant. I determined the insanity of the prisoner by his delusion about the girl, general appearance, inattention to business, &c. This unsoundness of mind might affect his ability to decide between right and wrong on some subjects. Clark might be able to discriminate on general topics, and not on particular ones.

"He undoubtedly felt it to be right to kill Wight. Might discriminate between right and wrong in many cases. Insanity on one point alone is monomania. I rarely see pure, simple monomania; have little faith in its existence; do not know that I ever saw it; it is rarely seen. Insanity is like other diseases, the affection of one part more or less disordering the whole. It is not always the case that general unsoundness of mind will show itself in general actions, to a casual observer. This is one of the cases where it does not. The development and approach of insanity are often gradual, sometimes very sudden. Often, insanity may be developing gradually, and go on for some time, and not attract observation, until an overt act of extraordinary character attracts attention to it. Frequently its first indications are faint; its approach resembles the change from day to night, and we cannot fix, in the intermediate twilight, the definite point of its commencement. I do not regard every criminal as a man of unsound mind. The commission of a crime is not *prima facie* evidence of insanity. I believe that sane men frequently commit crimes.

"The actions spoken of in Massachusetts, could not reasonably be consistent with sanity. Absent-mindedness and inattention to affairs, and depression of spirits, do not necessarily indicate insanity. They do, here. Opium, or a stimulant, would not cause such indications as his case presents. I know of no stimulant or drug that would produce these symptoms. I cannot state the period when responsibility for action ceases, in insanity. A man may know all he is doing, and yet not be responsible. Clark quoted the Bible freely, to support his killing Wight. An insane man does not, as a general thing, try to conceal his insanity. If I were to see a person who I knew had been disappointed, draw his knife across his throat, I should regard it as evidence of liability to commit suicide.

"Clark was generally cool and collected while I talked with him. Did not ask me why I was so particular in my conversation. Some persons with mania have the liberty of the town at Hartford. If one of those men were to stab a citizen, my opinion of his responsibility would depend on the case. One would not be an insane man from such a fact alone. The absence of sanity does not always imply absence of consciousness of right and wrong. A man may be insane and have a consciousness of right and wrong; not in reference to any act, but in reference to individual actions. No one was present at the second interview. I am not certain that Clark then knew me."

Examination resumed.—"Some patients go out in an omnibus, at Hartford, with a driver, and one attendant. The carriage goes out six times a day. There are some whom I cannot allow to go—very few. In the testimony which I have heard, and what I have seen, there is nothing leading to the suspicion that Clark's insanity was simulated. It would be very difficult to simulate such symptoms of insanity. In case of general unsoundness of mind, the patient may be conscious of right and wrong, abstractly, and yet so far as he is concerned, not be. I believe he thought it right and his duty to take life in this particular case. I think that, upon this matter, he did not discriminate between right and wrong."

Dr. Pliny Earle called and affirmed.—"I am a physician. I have devoted my attention to insanity for fifteen years; have been resident physician at asylums for seven years, and visiting physician for three years. I was a resident physician two years at Philadelphia, and five years at Bloomingdale, and am now visiting physician to the New York City Hospital for the Insane, on Blackwell's Island. I have visited European institutions. Visited the prisoner the afternoon of the 26th of July last. Was with him a little over three hours. Saw him two hours on the following morning. Conversed with him about the history of his case. He gave his account of the whole affair, from his first acquaintance with Miss Bogart to the shooting. Mr. Harrison was present, at my suggestion. We had long conversations. He began with his first knowledge of the young lady as a school girl. Spoke of his becoming acquainted with her as she passed his store. Afterwards there was an attachment. Spoke of his furnishing her teachers in dancing and music,—of giving her presents; talked a good deal about the melodeon. Spoke very feelingly of his strong attachment for her; at one time wept. Made a strong effort to control his feelings. I asked him why he wept; he said he could not help it. He spoke of having several conversations with Mrs. Bogart, and his language tended to im-

press upon me that Mrs. Bogart favored his marrying her daughter rather than Wight. When he tried to give the reasons, they were reasons that to other persons would not convey any such meaning. He said the reason of Wight's wanting to marry the girl was to break up the match; he was fond of it,—had done it before. He said no one of Mr. Bogart's family liked Mr. Wight. Throughout the conversation he tried to give the impression that he thought much of her, and she of him. He could give no evidence of this latter assertion; but, on the contrary, any other persons would believe, from his reasons, that she disliked him. I cannot give his precise words. I do not remember details on many topics of which he spoke, that had no special bearing on his insanity. He stated that Wight had gained a power over the girl by seducing her; that she married him through fear of his exercise of that power; that his (Wight's) object in marrying her was to ruin her,—to make her miserable. He said Wight's object in getting her from her parents' house was to complete her ruin. I asked him several times the reason why he believed that Wight had seduced her. He said, once, he knew it,—it was so. He said Mrs. Bogart was aware of the fact. He quoted a remark of hers to prove it, which did not convey any such meaning as that. He said that the girl loved him better than she did Wight; that he had seen it by her eye and her countenance; that she dare not speak of it through fear of her husband. He placed a good deal of stress upon the fact that one time she had called him Richard, the name of her husband. He believed that her mind was so much on him that she called him by the name of her husband, because she thought he ought to be her true husband. These statements were not made to me, apparently, to convince me that the girl loved him. He appeared fully to believe them. His conversation was entirely free, sincere and artless. He gave the account of Wight's acquaintance, and breaking off with her, and said that when he (Clark) renewed his attentions, Wight returned.

“He talked about the homicide. He told of borrowing the pistol; told the reason he gave; said it was to shoot a cat about the store; gave an account of his visit to the family in the afternoon, and trying to see them all together. He said if he could get the family together and expose Wight, he thought there might be a conflict, and he was pretty confident as to the result. He gave me to understand that he should probably kill Wight; he might have said that he was the stronger man. The second time he went up, that afternoon, he put the pistol in his pocket, not expecting to use it, but thinking it might be needed. He spoke of going into the back room. His account agreed with Mrs. Bo-

gart's testimony. He said when he went into the front room he walked backwards and forwards two or three times, then took out the pistol and shot the man. He said the shooting was simply mechanical; he acted without volition. By this he expected to prevent the removal of Mrs. Wight from the house of her parents. Said if he (Clark) were killed, it was of no importance. The whole idea was that it was his mission to kill Wight, and save that girl from ruin by preventing her from being taken away. I felt of his pulse; found it more rapid than usual; did not give much importance to it. I think, at the time of his committing the act, he thought it right; think it is not possible for a man to simulate insanity in a case of this kind while under examination. The idea never occurred to me that he did. In considering the whole history of the case, I should go back to the death of his mother, as making a great impression on his mind; then the disappointment at Chicopee, causing a depression of spirits and a change of manner, &c., for causes leading to my opinion. The change of his appearance at a later time, peculiarities of manner, abstraction of mind, expression of countenance, eyes, wildness, and a few expressions of his, would be others. His inattention to business, leaving his bed, pressing his head, starting up at times, and his using the knife, have a bearing on the question. If any one was in sight, to his knowledge, when he did the latter, I would not give the action much attention. The silly laugh is the thing of the most importance. In a man once made insane by great grief, an equal grief subsequently would probably cause a greater degree of mental disturbance than at first. Such kind of mental distress as this man had is an efficient and sufficient cause of insanity. These circumstances confirm my opinion, drawn from personal observation. I think he was an insane man. One of the strong evidences of his delusion and belief that it was his mission to save this girl from impending destruction, is the fact of his continuing to go there after the marriage, and interfering. The carrying of papers there, too, was part of it. There is such a thing as hereditary insanity. The son of an insane father would, other things being equal, be more likely to be insane than another person."

Cross-examined.—"There is no such thing as an accurate classification of cases of insanity; one person might put this case under one head, and another person under another. I should place it under the head of what the books call monomania. Those who are most devoted to the subject of insanity differ about the classification, in many cases. I place it where I do because his insanity was apparent on only the one topic of his attachment to this lady. Should not say that his mind was

enough affected on other subjects to say that he was insane upon them. I don't consider his mind sound on any subject connected with this girl. 'They are trying to roast me,' might come from a man in *delirium tremens*, or approaching to it. The mind of a monomaniac is not generally considered perfectly sound on other subjects. Others might class this case as one of melancholia. I think this man was laboring under delusion at the time of the homicide. One delusion, I think, was, that Mrs. Wight liked him better than she liked her husband. Another is, that Mr. Wight married her merely to effect her ruin. Another was, that it was his mission to put him (Wight) out of the way. I have, in what I have said, intended to give the substance of the conversation between myself and Clark,—I mean the leading ideas. My intention always is to weigh the whole evidence furnished by a conversation.

"One reason that he actually assigned for believing that Miss Bogart was fond of him was, that when they met and parted they kissed each other. When I traced it out, he said she didn't kiss him so more than once or twice. The question was asked of him, if she kissed him so. He said she was too proud or too modest to let him see that she loved him; but she did. He spoke at length of the dancing, and the journey to Waterbury. There was no effort on his part to force me to believe his story. I think he then believed it. He told me he borrowed the pistol to kill the cat. I pressed him on that point. He insisted that he did not borrow it to kill Wight. He said it was his fixed intention to kill Wight, if there was a conflict, but not with the pistol. The talk about this killing was not consecutive.

"I came here on the 26th of July, to visit Clark. I had been told some of the circumstances of the case. I was told, in effect, that they wished to ascertain whether he was insane. Mr. Harrison asked me to come. He came two days before Commencement, and spoke of the homicide. Don't know whether he said that any one believed him insane. He stated some things in evidence which he said could be proved, peculiarities of conduct in his store, things at Chicopee, &c. He gave me a brief history of the case. So far as I have any knowledge or belief, I presume Clark did not know me. I believe Clark had not the slightest reason to suspect why I came to him. Mr. Harrison said I was a friend of his, and wished to hear the whole history of the transaction. The history was almost exclusively by inquiry on my part, and answers on his. Mr. Harrison asked one or two questions, but they were not such questions as I should have asked.

"Depression of spirits, absence of mind, and inattention to business

may all exist, without insanity, in one person. I am not prepared to say that the starting up, and the silly laugh, *with* these others, could. You have, in the case of this man, a remarkable combination of symptoms. Leaving out the silly laugh, I think the others might. A person of a sensitive mind, under the influence of stimulants, might exhibit these symptoms, without insanity; such a temperament as Clark's might. In giving my opinion I have made it up from all the circumstances I have mentioned. I think the evidence about the Massachusetts troubles chiefly valuable, in making up an opinion, as showing that he had suffered before. I think those occurrences increased his predisposition to insanity, and that the insanity produced the homicide.

"Monomaniacs are not affected, as to their discrimination on subjects of right and wrong, in matters foreign to the subject on which they are diseased. In the monomaniac I am not prepared to say that the consciousness of right and wrong, on a particular subject, is always destroyed. Insanity, so far as classification is concerned, is a subject of doubt among experts."

Examination resumed.—"Two professional men looking at the same facts in the same way, would not always class insane cases alike. Discussion about mania and monomania is rather a discussion about difference of words than difference of things,—a question as to which pigeon-hole you would put a bundle into. A man exhibiting the four symptoms selected by Mr. Foster, and those only, *might* be decidedly insane. I have no idea that the symptoms in this case resulted from the use of stimulants. Mania does not necessarily destroy consciousness of right and wrong on all subjects."

Dr. Isaac Ray called and sworn.—"Reside in Providence. Have charge of the Rhode Island Insane Hospital; have had for eight years. I was in the Maine Hospital about four years. Have given my particular attention to insanity for twenty years. I have published a work on Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity; it has gone through three editions here, and two abroad. I have never seen the prisoner at the bar, except in this Court-house. I have been here from the commencement of this trial to this time, and taken notes. Never conversed with the prisoner.

"It appears that a change commenced in this man as early as November, 1854, and that this change continued increasing up to the day of the homicide. The change was manifested by the absence of mind, cavalier treatment of customers, fiddling while customers were in his store, not noticing customers, saying he didn't know things he did know, disregard of his personal appearance, shutting up shop and going

away, jumping over fences where there was a gate, going to Chicopee improperly clad, inviting a girl to a dance in New Haven when he was in Chicopee, giving her a five-dollar gold piece, though he had never seen her before, his conduct as related by his sister, leaving his bed and sleeping on the sofa, and his carelessness as to business. If all these circumstances left any doubt in my mind as to his insanity, the doubt would be removed by the testimony of Drs. Butler and Earle. In his notions about Miss Bogart I find a gross and very well defined delusion. The affair with the Massachusetts girl produced much mental disturbance, though I am not prepared to say that it amounted to insanity. However that may be, he recovered from it, partially at least, though it probably rendered him more susceptible of a subsequent attack. If it be proved that his father was insane, that furnishes a strong presumption of predisposition. As bearing on this point, I would notice his turns of depression when young. This trait generally indicates hereditary disorder. It is my belief that he was an insane man at the time of the commission of the act. If Drs. Earle and Butler gave a true narrative, those circumstances would positively indicate insanity."

The prosecution was conducted, on behalf of the State, by E. K. Foster, Esq., States' Attorney, assisted by James D. Keese, Esq. The prisoner was defended by Charles Chapman, Esq., and Henry B. Harrison, Esq.

The theory of the prosecution insisted, "that it was in accordance with Clark's own prior and subsequent declarations, that he had become tired of life; that he had no wish to live; had no belief of a future state of rewards and punishments; that he was a sceptic in whatever pertained to God or his government; and that with feelings rankling in his bosom against Mr. Wight, for having supplanted him in the affections of Mrs. Wight, he had determined to put Wight out of the way, come what might. They insist that, in the prison, after the homicide, in conversation with Garfield and others, he said life had no charms for him,—that he had paid a debt and had his revenge, and, consequently, the homicide was a deliberate and malicious murder."

On the other hand it was claimed that the homicide was committed under the influence of an insane impulse; "that his conduct in January, March, and April, 1855, was of such a character as to establish, beyond all doubt, his unsoundness of mind;" that the homicide was the result of a "well-defined delusion," that it was his duty to take the life of Wight, in order to rescue Mrs. W. from ruin and oppression. In accordance with this, he acted with deliberation and coolness in the accomplishment of his end.

HON. WILLIAM W. ELLSWORTH, presiding Judge, in his charge to the jury, remarked that the question to be decided was, "What was the state of the man's mind *on the 28th of April?* The state of his mind at any time before or after that day, in one sense, has nothing to do with the question. Your inquiries will be directed to the day and the time when Mr. Wight was killed. The prisoner's conduct before and since the homicide, his states of mind, his declarations and conversations, his appearances in other years and months, are of no importance, except as they bear on the state of the prisoner's mind on the 28th of April. These things, before and after, I do not wish to depreciate; but their importance, and their only importance, consists in their bearing upon the point in issue, as just stated. These circumstances may be so remote from that day, so obscure in their proof and real character, so dubious in their cause or existence, as not to guide you to any satisfactory conclusion; still, it would be manifestly unjust to discard or overlook such evidence, for it may be the only evidence which the counsel for the prisoner can look to, to establish their defense; and it is such evidence as does bear upon the question, What was the state of this man's mind when he committed the deed?

"I will further remark, that the law presumes every person of mature age to be a reasonable and accountable being, and so the prisoner is to be held to be, unless he can satisfy you by the proof in this case, coming from either side, that he is not so. All laws and all law-makers proceed upon the supposition of sanity of mind and accountability, and likewise that each person is acquainted with the laws of the land. If, therefore, the prisoner has perpetrated a crime, or which would be such upon the presumption aforesaid, the burthen of proof, as I have just said, rests upon him, to throw off the responsibility by proving his insanity. His counsel, if the evidence will justify it, may show he is insane, either generally or partially—that he is idiotic or without mind; and it is a good defense, if sustained by proof; for laws were made for rational men, and not for those who are bereft of reason. I say bereft of reason—that is, that he has not intellect, or ability, or memory to connect the relations of a subject; that he cannot apprehend the moral character of the deed, and has not a will to act in accordance with his conclusions; in a word, they may show that he was a machine, and had not moral power to act for himself. It is true, all will admit, that God does in some cases so afflict our fellow-beings, and it may be he has done it in the case of the prisoner. It is claimed that he has. The inquiry is, therefore, worthy of your most careful consideration, how the fact is. This mental capacity may be expressed in other words, though of the same import. If, at the time of the alleged offense, the

prisoner had capacity and reason enough to enable him to distinguish between right and wrong in this instance, or to understand the nature, character, and consequences of the act, and could apply his knowledge to this case, not being overcome by an irresistible impulse arising from *disease*, then he was an accountable being, but otherwise he was not. You see that I emphasize the word *disease*, for, as I have already said, an inability or obscurity of mind, or a deadness or loss of memory, of a temporary character, the result of voluntary and culpable conduct, as intoxication or extreme hatred, is no palliation for an offender; for it is probable few murders are committed by men who, at the time, have a clear appreciation of the character of the offense they commit. The law most justly holds a man responsible, if the disability is temporary, and produced by his misconduct. If the disease is, however, fixed and permanent, then he is not responsible. I have likewise said an offender can find no impunity in scepticism or atheism. This would be to surrender the world to dark fatalism, or to the uncontrolled dominion of those who would pull down the entire fabric of government, and of society."

The jury, after a deliberation of five hours, rendered the following verdict: "*Not guilty, on the sole ground of insanity.*"

The prisoner was remanded to jail, and, according to provision made by the statutes of the State, in such cases, sent, by order of the Court, to the Retreat for the Insane, at Hartford. ..

ARTICLE III.

SENILE INSANITY.—HYPOCHONDRIASIS.

BY JOHN M. GALT, M. D., SUPERINTENDENT AND PHYSICIAN OF THE
EASTERN ASYLUM OF VIRGINIA.

Two individuals were, some time since, brought to the Eastern Lunatic Asylum on the same day and from the same county; they were duly committed by the magistrates of the county in question as being insane, but both of them were refused admission by the Board of Directors of the Asylum. This refusal occurred at an adjourned meeting of the Directors, they not concurring with the county authorities as to the propriety of their reception as patients. The first meeting consisted of three members, the smallest number allowed by law to adjudicate any case, and the second of seven of the eleven who constitute the Directory.

We may mention that in no state of the Union has there been a more entire immunity from any difficulties concerning unjust confinement than in Virginia, notwithstanding that her provision for the insane dates back at so remote a period, the Eastern Asylum having been founded in 1769, and having been opened for the reception of patients in the year 1773. We think this most desirable immunity greatly owing to the judicious character of the legal enactments concerning the confinement of the insane. Boarders are permitted to be sent to the asylums without the action of magistrates; but, in that event, the decision of the court of examination is required to be unanimous. In the case of state patients, equal care is found in the circumstance that the preliminary action of three magistrates is necessary, and then a subsequent examination by the Directory. It has also been a custom for each supposed lunatic to be examined by the Superintendent before coming in the presence of the Board, and a previous custom has recently been converted into a positive regulation, at least so far as concerns the co-operation of the Superintendent. Occasionally cases originally refused have been returned again, and ultimately admitted as patients; and perhaps the danger in the arrangements here adopted lies in this particular, as might be almost anticipated from the complete absence of the opposite evil; for, by the very law of compensation, evil and good are usually conjoined, to a greater or less extent, so that if you obtain an important end, it is only by some sacrifice. As to the cases discussed in the present article, the writer was doubtful what should have been the decision; and they are not given so much to show whether their rejection was erroneous or the reverse, as to form the basis for a few remarks concerning the class of individuals to which they assimilate.

As respects the general outlines of the first case, there was evidently little more, if any, mental disturbance, other than the mere weakness of mind attending old age. There was, it is true, a decided psychical debility, and especially of the memory; thus he repeated over and over again that his name was A. B., that he was cousin of C. D., that he had lost all his property by going security, &c.; moreover, he appeared unable to tell where he was, or how long he had been on the route to the Asylum. But, in relation to unmanageable conduct, there was little evidence that there had been any such; and there was none of that irritability or the like morbid state of the feelings leading to conduct quite extravagant in an old person. One of the strongest circumstances favoring the idea that insanity existed, was the fact that he had a cousin who was committed to the Asylum as insane, being so found

by the jury who tried him for having killed his father in the most shocking manner, cutting him up with an axe. Under the law, he remained at the hospital until sufficiently restored, again to undergo judicial scrutiny. He died after a residence of eleven years.

In looking over the writers on the subject, we find but few observations with respect to the question of confining in asylums the sufferers from senile dementia. We are ourselves very much inclined to think that expediency should be the test here, rather than any definite line of demarcation established between mere natural decay and positive senile dementia. As there is usually but slight hope of a recovery, and the patient is not dangerous, unless under peculiar circumstances, we really consider this to be, in general, one of the instances in which relatives are bound to bear the burthen of those to whom life presents but a few years before "the golden bowl is broken," and "the wheel is broken at the cistern."

With respect to senile insanity, writers on jurisprudence have discussed largely the question of the sanity or insanity of testators suspected of this form of mental alienation. We think that remarks of this nature are usually of a not sufficiently definite character; and, doubtless, it is in practice quite difficult to say where this malady commences, and where we have to do with simple decay of the faculties, apart from any morbid change. As, however, the word "madness"* expressed the popular view of insanity, at the same time that it was a correct term—as implying the existence of a morbid state of the feelings in lunacy, thus depicting the real features of the disease, in opposition to the false definitions of Locke and others, limiting the morbid condition to the intellect; so, in a similar mode, the distinction between mere decay of the mental powers and senile dementia, though not, as we have intimated, in such express language, yet still seems intended by writers on the subject to consist in the absence of morbid emotions on the one hand and their presence on the other. Dr. Ray has the most lucid remarks as to this topic, in his *Treatise on Jurisprudence*—a work that does more credit to America than aught in relation to insanity that has been produced on this side of the Atlantic. He observes: "This form of the disorder, or senile dementia, is so often the subject of medico-legal inquiries, especially in connection with wills, that it deserves particular attention. Senile dementia, it must be recollected, is something more than the mere loss of mental power which results from the natural decay of the faculties; it is not only feeble, but it is deranged. Were it not so, every old man would labor

* From the Gothic, *mod*.

under a certain degree of dementia." Then, after alluding especially to the impairment of the memory, he says: "The first symptom indicative of derangement is a degree of incoherence in the ideas, like that of dreams, &c." Such being the ordinary course of senile dementia, he observes, in addition, that there is sometimes "great irritability, excitement of the venereal appetite,—of an appetite for high-seasoned dishes and intoxicating drinks." This last remark of Dr. Ray appears to have been borrowed from the renowned treatise of M. Esquirol, who uses almost the identical words here employed. But, as we have said, the main line of demarcation between mere natural decay of the faculties and senile dementia has never been so clearly pointed out as by Dr. Ray. Burrows, also, in his "Commentaries," observes: "In this singular affection the system is influenced by an extraordinary excitation, prompting the revival of youthful passions and follies, when the power of fruition has long ceased. The whole moral and intellectual character of the patient is changed; the pious become impious, and the content and happy discontented and miserable, the prudent and economical imprudent and ridiculously profuse, the liberal penurious, the sober drunken, &c. Persons in whom the sexual passion has been long dormant suddenly become lascivious and obscene." He mentions, as an instance, a nobleman who, up to his ninetieth year, enjoyed every faculty in a healthy state, and especially a clear understanding, when suddenly he became very violent and imperious in his conduct and conversation, purchased many ridiculous things, grew fond of alcoholic drinks, &c. Aræteus asserts that this mental condition is always fatal. Dr. Conolly, in his work on the "Indications of Insanity," intimates the necessary caution, that we should make a "greater degree of allowance in some cases than in others; for instance, where the individual has *always* been eccentric; for the eccentricity will probably be increased by age; and to one unacquainted with the previous habits of the patient, he may seem to be mad, although, perhaps, merely a humorist, who has in declining life become a little more childish in his humors." In the same production he mentions the singular case of an old gentleman who, on approaching his ninetieth year, experienced such an impairment of his mental faculties, that he sometimes imagined himself dead, communicating the intelligence of his own decease to his friends, with perfect gravity and an air of entire resignation, but only professing himself a little scandalized that the windows were not closed on the occasion. He would likewise direct that the sad news ought to be communicated to his friends, that he went off easily, and, to conclude the matter, he requested one more pinch of snuff before he

was finally screwed down in his coffin. Dr. Prichard observes, in his well-known "Treatise on Insanity:" "Senile dementia, or the decay of the mental faculties, is not the lot of old persons universally, though it is a condition to which old age may be said to have a tendency, and to which, in the last stage of bodily decay, some approximations are generally to be perceived." In his extensive work, "*De la Folie, considérée dans ses rapports avec les questions médico-judiciaires*," strange to say, M. Marc fails to dwell on the important subject of senile insanity. There is also a deficiency here in De Boismont, Foderé, Georget, Moreau, Bottex, and other French writers. And the same may be affirmed of the leading authorities of Germany, or they fall into the opposite error of confusion. Indeed, we have been able to find no allusion to the simple distinctions of Dr. Ray and M. Esquirol, beyond an agreement with the latter. This, for example, is the case with the most elaborate Italian authors, such as Bonacossa, Fantonelli, Balletti, and other standard writers; although the first-mentioned physician, besides being remarkable for his many divisions and subdivisions, has, moreover, written a great deal concerning dementia at an early period, in his inaugural thesis, and later in his very valuable work, the "*Patologia Mentale*."

With regard to the case of hypochondriasis alluded to in the first few words of this article, I should, perhaps, apologize for including in the same essay remarks relative to two forms of mental alienation so entirely disconnected as senile insanity and hypochondriasis. But, as has been previously explained, there was a temporary connection of circumstances leading to analogous remarks upon the two. Passing, then, to the case of hypochondriasis: in this instance the opinion of the writer was asked by the Board of Directors; and it was presented to them as a conclusion, that it was best to be guided by the wish of the sufferer himself—in other words, to leave it to him to determine whether he would become an inmate of the asylum. My reason for this suggestion, I observed, was, that, in the first place, it was true that an individual thus affected was entitled, as a right, to a position in an asylum. For, throwing aside the mere existence of delusion in hypochondriasis, we would otherwise arrive at the same opinion, because it so frequently happened that melancholia and hypochondriasis alternate, and pass into each other, that the connection is too intimate to justify us in refusing to receive such a patient. Moreover, I remarked that in both these affections suicide is so often the lot of the unhappy victim, that a second reason is thus constituted why we should give him succor against so dire a calamity. But, on the other hand,

although dangers of the kind were imminent, yet we should guard against infringing on the rights of persons, at any rate recognized by law, or entitled to the privileges of the same. For is it not notorious that individuals with the most absurd hypochondriacal delusions have, nevertheless, performed the duties of important civil situations, and, in addition, had the use of their property and the power of making a will? Hence it was that I made the suggestion before mentioned to the authorities of the Eastern Asylum.

These ideas may be illustrated by reference to various writers. Thus Esquirol observes: "Hysteria and hypochondriasis often gradually become or pass into madness, and in many cases they but constitute its first stage, which, indeed, has caused many authors, both ancient and modern, to confound the two maladies." And again, in his able article on suicide, he says that "the pain which leads to lypemania and hypochondriasis often results in suicide." And the distinguished Brachet, in his extensive work, entitled "*Traité Complet de L'Hypochondrie*," avers that the malady most frequently terminating hypochondriasis is mental alienation. In the "Anatomy of Suicide" it is observed: "There is no more frequent cause of suicide than visceral derangement, leading to melancholia and hypochondriasis." And further, it is said: "In the case of Cowper we have a melancholy instance of hypochondriacal feeling leading to suicidal derangement." It is from remarks of this character in standard writers that we are led to decide on affording him our assistance, when the victim of hypochondriasis knocks at the doors of our lunatic asylums. But, on the other hand, mere nervous feeling and hypochondriacal symptoms are too closely connected, and too often but slightly prevent the sufferer from attending to his affairs, to justify the procedure of forcibly placing an individual thus affected within the walls of an institution for the insane. In this relation, for example, Dr. Conolly, in his work on the "Indications of Insanity," warns us against acting too rigorously. Says he: "The far more important, but not more difficult duty of the practitioner is, for the most part, neglected—that of considering, with all the caution which such a serious case requires, *whether or not the departure from sound mind be of a nature to justify the confinement of the individual, and the imposition of restraint upon him, as regards the use or disposal of his property.*" And again, in treating of false sensations, he declares: "A man may be mad upon that point alone, and his madness may be of no consequence to himself or others." Additional weight, too, must be assigned to considerations of the sort, when we turn our attention, not only to ordinary cases, but to certain instances well known to the literary pub-

lic. Thus Boswell, after stating that Dr. Johnson was a hypochondriac, goes on to say: "Though he suffered severely from it, he was not therefore degraded. The powers of his great mind might be troubled, and their full exercise suspended at times; but the mind itself was ever entire. As a proof of this, it is only necessary to consider, that, when he was at the very worst, he composed that state of his own case, which showed an uncommon vigor, not only of fancy and taste, but of judgment." In Cowper the hypochondriacal element, taking the form of an excessive dread of punishment in the next world, ended in positive insanity of a suicidal character; whilst in Dr. Johnson the morbid predisposition stopped short of this, though he too appears to have experienced an inordinate apprehension of death and hereafter.

Many passages may be found in writers on insanity touching those degrees of mental disturbance not evincing the broad and unmistakable features of positive and decided lunacy. Dr. Conolly observes, for example: "So many hypochondriacal persons are known to be at large who entertain strange opinions concerning their own form and nature, that it seems hardly necessary to caution the practitioner against treating such patients as madmen are commonly treated." And elsewhere he says: "Harrington, the author of the '*Oceana*,' cherished a notion that his animal spirits transpired from him in the shape of birds, or flies, or bees; much of his conversation turned on good and evil spirits; and he would use strong arguments to prove that his sensorial illusions were realities: but on other subjects he was clear and rational."

I could also particularize cases, reported to me by reliable persons, of individuals of their acquaintance laboring under a similar mental disturbance—a disturbance where no compulsory measures would have been deemed at all justifiable. Thus a lady, in one instance, was almost deprived of the pleasure of a drive, because, if she rode in town, she complained of being constantly apprehensive lest the houses should fall and crush her, and if in the country, that an analogous calamity would ensue from falling trees. A second was always strongly affected by the sight of her housekeeper when in a particular dress, insomuch that, on once returning home and meeting her so clad at the porch, she fainted away. She also occasionally fancied herself a tea-urn, and, under that impression, would assume a suitably imitative position. This was likewise the case with a gentleman mentioned to me, and with a third lady. The last occasionally imagined, besides, that she was a goose, and, in accordance with the supposition, would sometimes be found crouched upon a parcel of carpet-rags in a little closet, and,

when approached, would hiss very anserously, so as to fully entitle herself, in the opinion of the ill-natured, to an appellation corresponding with the character which she had assumed; yet, if her friends called to pay her a visit, she would desist from her absurd conduct, and talk to and entertain them rationally during the whole evening. Under the present head may be included, also, the strange antipathies reported by writers. In this class I have heard of three individuals whose nerves would be extremely affected, merely by the entrance of a cat into the room where they were.

ARTICLE IV.

NINTH REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY, TO THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

[*From the Asylum Journal, October, 1855.*]

This Report includes the transactions which occurred during the year 1854. It was presented on the 31st of March, and the public who are interested in lunacy matters have reason to feel obliged to the Commissioners for the promptness of its preparation and publication.

The first fact likely to attract the notice of the reader is, that "Miss Mary Flemming is now included with her mother in the license for Warwick House, Chelsea;" and on referring to the list of licensed houses in Appendix A., one cannot fail to be struck with the much larger proportion of female proprietors of licensed houses in the metropolitan district over those in what the Commissioners call "the provinces;" the proportion being one-fourth in the former, and not quite one-eleventh in the latter. How it is that the Commissioners in Lunacy, whose powers over the licensed houses in the metropolitan district are practically without limit, are so much more favorable to female proprietors than county justices appear to be, we are unable to give any satisfactory reason.

After noticing the changes which have taken place in the proprietary of licensed houses, the Commissioners proceed to make some interesting observations on the progress and condition of several of the new county lunatic asylums.

The reports on the WARWICK ASYLUM are of a favorable nature. The county, however, appears to have greatly overbuilt itself; many wards remaining unoccupied and unfinished. The Commissioners mention, that "considerable progress has been made in bringing the land into cultivation;" but they do not state that the land is a tenacious clay of the poorest character. The county justices bought this estate of the Lord Lieutenant, and at an enormous price. These are the sort of transactions which raised the cry for county financial boards.

The WORCESTER COUNTY ASYLUM suffers from an insufficient supply of water. The wards are cheerful, spacious, and well ventilated, and the various offices are convenient. The Commissioners state that "no disease of an epidemic character has prevailed." This, however, is an error, for eight patients died during the year in this asylum of Asiatic cholera, and four others of dysentery and diarrhœa.

The LINCOLN COUNTY ASYLUM will contain 250 patients. The general management of the asylum is reported to be very satisfactory; the wards well ventilated, cheerful, and airy. The amount of water has been insufficient, but an ample supply has now been procured from the Lincoln water-works.

The ASYLUM FOR HANTS will accommodate 400 patients, and has 105 acres of land. "The site is excellent, having a slope to the south. It is well wooded, and bounded on one side by a stream of water." At their last visit, the Commissioners found that considerable progress had been made towards the complete organization of the establishment: the wards were throughout exceedingly clean and well ventilated, the patients well clothed and comfortable.

The ESSEX COUNTY ASYLUM will accommodate 448 patients. The building is of a very pleasing character, and is conveniently arranged. The wards are clean and well ventilated, the health of the patients good, and the condition of the asylum creditable and satisfactory.

The ASYLUM FOR BUCKS will accommodate more than 200 patients. The wards are convenient and well arranged, but there are only 20 acres of land belonging to the institution. The wards are cheerful and clean, and comfortable in appearance, but some of them are cold, and the expensive warming and ventilating apparatus does not answer. The supply of water has been very deficient. And, "owing to the small number of patients, and the large staff of officers, the charge for pauper patients in this asylum is necessarily heavy." We demur to the necessity of the conclusion, unless it be admitted that a large staff of officers is needful for a small number of patients.

We may deduce from the remarks of the Commissioners on the new county asylums, that they find reason to disapprove of *systems* of warming and ventilation. They regret the absence of open fire-places both in the Warwick and the Bucks asylums. We believe that their opinions on this subject coincide completely with those of the great majority of superintendents. We never yet met with a superintendent who did not vastly prefer open fire-places for his patients.

In some asylums, as at Essex, ventilating and warming apparatuses exist, but are not used, the superintendents entertaining what we believe to be a well-grounded antipathy to their employment. Not only is nothing so cheerful and exhilarating in appearance as the open fire-place, connected as it is with the associations of the English home, and endeared to all British hearts by the recollections of happy hours spent in the ingle nook, or by one's own fireside; but it appears to be by far the most effectual method of securing thorough ventilation, and of warming the air without destroying its freshness,

It appears that three of the new county asylums—namely, those for Bucks, Worcester, and Lincolnshire—have suffered greatly from deficiency in their water supply. A deficient supply of water is one of the greatest evils to which a large lunatic asylum can be exposed; and it is much to be regretted that county justices should ever consent to purchase a site for an asylum, except on the condition that an abundant supply of water can be procured. Asylum architects seem to have had no conception of the quantity of water required for such establishments. Perhaps they thought that the madness of insanity was at least allied to hydrophobia.

There are some other matters the Commissioners notice of the new asylums, which may not appear at first sight to be of sufficient importance for notice in a blue book—such as the dress of the patients, the furnishing of the wards, the supply of newspapers and periodicals to them, and their walks in the adjoining country. These, however, with some other minor subjects of interest, such as singing birds, pet animals, and pictures on the walls—are not the mere tithes of mint and cummin which any one of them separately may be made to appear. Taken collectively, they are the outward signs of a careful and liberal management; and where thorough attention to them is observable, it may appear improbable that the weightier matters of medical and moral treatment do not receive their due amount of attention. It may be that medical skill and domestic management are not always united in perfectly just proportions; and, indeed, we know instances in which the disproportion existing between the two is very remarkable. In the admirable report of the Crichton Asylum, Dr.

Brown distinguishes the peculiar path of exertion which his assistant-physicians have pursued: "Dr. Gilchrist, as having signalized his career by the application of scientific instruction to an extent previously regarded as fabulous; Dr. Lindsay, as having devoted himself to the introduction of æsthetic elements into psychology, and attempting to effect by suggestions of beauty, by music and pageantry, what formerly squalor, silence, and darkness were left to accomplish; Mr. Aitkin, as presiding over literary undertakings, libraries, histrionic exhibitions, and that class of recreations which reach the sentiments through the intellect"—an excellent division of labor in a large and wealthy institution, where it is possible. But in establishments where the number and character of inmates, and the financial resources render it scarcely possible, and certainly inexpedient, where the medical superintendent has to be a Jack-of-all-trades, we do entertain a strong opinion that the one calling which it is imperative that he should possess, and exercise with undoubted skill, is the one of the scientific physician.

We do not know of a more painful sight than an admirably constructed and arranged asylum for the insane, replete with domestic comforts, and abounding in evidences of extreme solicitude for the contentment or happiness of the inmates, but containing no marks of any medical intentions or operations; all the patients at work, and none in the infirmary; no case-books, or, at all events, no records of treatment; no medicines, except stimulants for the aged and infirm, and an occasional dose of salts or castor oil for those who may need them; and, above all, a medical superintendent who openly professes to have no faith in the efficacy of medicine. Such an institution, with its beautifully arranged and decorated wards, its pictures, and pet animals, and picnics, does but remind one of the old fable of the fox with the visor, and tempt one to exclaim, "What a pity that so beautiful an appearance should have no brains!"

We are convinced that many asylums in this country have already lost their character as places for the medical treatment of disease, to a degree highly detrimental to their utility, and dangerous to their permanent prosperity. May we not attribute this, in great measure, to the fact that they are presided over by a Commission, of which it would be ungracious, and perhaps unjust, to say that scientific medicine is unrepresented therein, but of which the active members certainly display little interest in the pathology or medical treatment of mental diseases?

No provision has been made for the lunatic poor of the city of London. The city authorities have made efforts which, the Commissioners regret, have been attended with no satisfactory results. The

visiting justices of the adjoining counties will have nothing to do with them, either in the way of joint asylum or reception by contract. In spite of the earnest representations of the Commissioners, the empty wards of the Essex asylum are closed to the lunatic poor of London. It appears that a distinct asylum must be built for them, which the city authorities will be enabled to place under the system of management which is becoming well nigh peculiar to that venerable corporation.

The report on ST. LUKE'S HOSPITAL is too important to be passed over in a brief notice. We must refer to it at a future time. The Commissioners have exerted themselves in the most praiseworthy manner to obtain the removal of this institution from the present building, the defects of which they pronounce to be *irremediable*.

The first visitation to BETHLEHEM HOSPITAL under the statute was made on the 6th February, 1854, and the Commissioners were much gratified with the many important improvements which had recently taken place. "The paramount authority judiciously vested in Dr. Hood appeared to the visiting Commissioners to have been productive of much good, and they therefore purposely refrained, on that occasion, from making suggestions which might have had the effect or appearance of interfering with arrangements then under consideration."

The subject of Lunatic Hospitals the Commissioners truly state to be one of much importance.

"Viewing them as benevolent institutions, for the benefit of those classes of the community who, though not, in the ordinary sense, paupers, are really indigent, and as such, objects of charity, we are strongly of opinion that every effort should be made to improve their condition and management, and extend their usefulness. It is to be borne in mind that several of these institutions are in possession of property and income, from various sources, to a considerable amount; and your Lordship will no doubt feel that the proper and efficient administration of their trusts and funds is a matter falling especially within your Lordship's province, and that we act rightly in bringing them under your particular notice."

The Commissioners have not succeeded in their endeavor to frame a general code of rules and regulations for these institutions, owing to differences in their origin, constitution, size, and other peculiarities. We apprehend, however, that the really insurmountable difficulty which they have met with in their laudable endeavors has been the pertinacious opposition of the Board of Governors, who have succeeded in baffling their attempts to remedy old abuses, and anomalies of

government; or who, when they have seemed to give way to the advice and solicitation of the Commissioners, have done so in form and appearance only, and have contrived to evade actual and important changes. As an example, we may cite the earnest attempt which the Commissioners have made to place these institutions under the direction of medical superintendents similar in position to the men who have raised the county asylums of this country to so high a point of excellence and reputation. The hospitals have generally been under the management of weekly boards, visiting physicians, and resident apothecaries. Owing to the representations of the Commissioners, pressed with the earnestness of strong conviction, some of the boards of governors have consented to change the name of the resident apothecary into that of medical superintendent, and to invest him verbally with that "paramount authority" which the Commissioners insist upon. But with weekly boards of governors managing everything domestic and financial, and with daily visits of visiting physicians directing everything medical of less emergency than a suicide or of greater importance than a dose of castor oil, over what is the apothecary, with his new title, to be paramount? We earnestly trust that the Commissioners will eventually succeed in establishing, in spirit and in letter, the reasonable and necessary reforms which they advocate.

In some of these institutions one of the most needful reforms is the full appropriation of the charitable funds to their legitimate purposes. Take, as an instance, the first hospital mentioned in the instructive and valuable appendix A, which gives a succinct account of the origin and history of these institutions, the *ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL FOR LUNATICS, AT EXETER*. The amount of donations and legacies has been £17,000, of which £12,000 remains as existing capital, producing an income of £458 per annum. We presume that the remaining £5,000 has formed part of the £36,000 expended in land, buildings, and furniture. The average number of what are considered the charitable classes of the institution have been three received free of payment, two at 5s., and one at 10s. 6d. per week. If the payments of the three latter patients are added to the charitable income, the latter will amount to £501; to say nothing of the interest of the money spent in buildings, furniture, &c. For this £501 a year only six charitable patients are supported, in an institution rent free, and deriving from other sources an income of £2,000 a year, and therefore enabled to maintain a sufficient staff of officers, without drawing upon the resources which it would seem right to appropriate exclusively to the maintenance of the impoverished patients for whom they were subscribed. When it

is remembered that in these institutions the clothing of the charity patients is provided by their relations, and that they are rent free, and at least ought not to bear more than their relative proportion in the expenses of the staff, it will scarcely be considered that the charitable purposes for which the St. Thomas's Hospital was founded have been fairly carried out by the partial relief of 12 per cent. of its inmates. The cost of each of these charitable patients appears to have been £1 12s. a week, while the average cost of the other patients is just under a guinea. The Commissioners distinctly state that these institutions are for the reception of persons whose means are insufficient for their support elsewhere.

The Report on the Yarmouth Military Lunatic Asylum, and on Fort Pitt, having been considered elsewhere, we may in this place omit further notice of these institutions.

The Commissioners are of opinion that the metropolitan licensed houses have manifestly improved since they came under their jurisdiction; but those for patients of the middle and humbler classes, both in the metropolitan and provincial districts, "do not keep pace in the march of improvement by which the country asylums of the first class are distinguished."

The Commissioners mention that a large sum of money has been paid by Dr. Bailey for the purchase of the establishment and goodwill of a licensed house near Southampton.

"A payment of this nature, in our opinion, offers a strong temptation to those who purchase, to curtail the comforts and accommodation of the patients committed to their charge, in an attempt to reimburse themselves out of the profits of the asylum."

No doubt that, abstractedly, there is reason in this opinion. Commercial principles are almost as invariable as the laws of nature; and, according to the law of supply and demand, a thing fetches what it is worth in the market. But did not the visiting justices who licensed Grove Hall to Dr. Bailey take the trouble to convince themselves that his personal character was such as to render it improbable that he would curtail the comforts of his patients, in order to enlarge his profits? If they did not so convince themselves, they and the Commissioners have the power of constant visitation; and the former have the further power of revoking the license, whenever such visitation has convinced them that it has been granted to an unworthy person. *The large sums of money which are readily procurable for the purchase and good will of licensed houses of bad character and parsimonious management, are credentials of their inefficient visitation, or of want of energy in the administration of the law.*

Four interesting cases are detailed, in which patients who had been found unmanageable in licensed houses, except by means of mechanical restraint or of constant seclusion, were, on the recommendation of the Commissioners, removed to other institutions, where they were treated differently, with the most beneficial results. Such practical demonstrations of the power of the new system to reclaim the most unmanageable cases cannot fail to convince the most obstinate adherents of the old methods of management, by the influence of that logic which they are best able to understand, namely, by appeal to the *argumentum ad crumenam*. The loss of a few patients whom they cannot manage, except by the aid of the jacket or the dark cell, and whom others manage and cure by gentler methods, will prove to them that, in the long run, the jacket is not the most *profitable* means of providing for the cure and treatment even of violent lunatics, which was for them the thing to be done—Q. E. D.

The next subject for report is the defective medical arrangements at the Norfolk Asylum. As it has been treated on at greater length in the pages of this journal, it is unnecessary again to refer to it, except to state that the Commissioners take exactly the same view of the subject which we have done.

"Without entering into the merits of this dispute between the officers of this institution, we are disposed to attribute any evil attending it to the rules of the asylum, which deprive the medical officer of powers which ought properly to belong to him, and give them to non-professional persons, who, necessarily, cannot be fully competent to exercise them.

"It appears to us to be of the greatest importance to the well-being of these large public institutions, not only that the resident medical officer should have paramount authority therein, but also that he should be liberally remunerated."

It is easy to see through the veil of official reserve, that they think Dr. Foote was very ill used in this matter.

The frequency of medical visitation of single patients (once a fortnight) has frequently been diminished under circumstances appearing to justify the relaxation; the returns of these medical visitations of single cases are stated to be far from complete. We are glad to observe that the Commissioners have the whole of this subject under their consideration; it is, in our opinion, one of most pressing and urgent importance, and we entertain a very strong conviction that the Commissioners are entirely ignorant of the very existence of large numbers of insane persons, kept too often at the homes of their relatives, in squalor, filth, and misery; or farmed out in obscure

localities, where no medical man ever sees or hears of them. The absurd exception which excludes patients who are not kept for profit from all visitation, is a mesh, or rather a gaping rent in the legal net, which will easily let through all offenders against sec. 90 of the Private Asylums Act. The judges also have got it into their heads that the lunacy statutes were "never intended to interfere with the domestic management of the insane;" as if this so-called domestic management was not by far more frequently characterized by cruelty and neglect than any other management whatsoever. We sincerely trust that the Commissioners will succeed in bringing "the entire class of single patients fully within their own cognizance."

On the subject of the greatly increased number of pauper lunatics, the Commissioners make some most valuable and judicious observations. It appears that during the last eight years the number of pauper lunatics in asylums, registered hospitals, and licensed houses has increased from 9,652 to 15,822, being an increase of upwards of 64 per cent. This, it is truly observed, "may appear at first sight startling, and has led some observers to infer that insanity, as a disease, has been increasing in this kingdom in a greatly more rapid ratio than its population." The Commissioners, however, demur "to so painful and disheartening a solution," and give several reasons for the opposite opinion.

In the first place, they think that the increased care and skill employed in the treatment of the insane poor have had the effect of greatly prolonging the duration of lunatic life in asylums, and have contributed, in no small degree, to the accumulation of chronic and incurable cases.

They refer, in the second place, to the more prompt care and treatment which the stringency of statutory enactments has provided for recent and violent cases, by means of which insane paupers who would aforetime have been harbored in work-houses, or allowed to live on miserably on a parish pittance, are now removed at once to the county asylum.

We do not think the Commissioners are correct in estimating this operation of the law as one cause of the accumulation of chronic lunatics; on the contrary, we entertain the opinion that it affords the most powerful agency to counteract that tendency. The earlier the period at which violent and recent cases are placed under care and treatment, the less the probability that they will become chronic and incurable; and thus we believe that the stringent provisions of the law tend to prevent the accumulation of chronic lunatics. We think that the third reason assigned by the Commissioners accounts for the

increase of pauper lunatics in asylums to a much greater degree than all the other reasons; it is thus stated:

"It is obvious, also, that the attention of medical practitioners (as well as the public generally) has of late years been led to take a far more comprehensive, as well as scientific, view of insanity in its various aspects, and to consider as properly falling under it many forms of the disease, which, from not exhibiting any strongly developed symptoms, were in former times wholly overlooked, although, with a view to their cure, it might be of essential importance that the best remedial treatment should be applied to them with the utmost promptitude."

Advancing civilization increases the number of lunatics in a country in two ways—it multiplies and intensifies the causes of insanity, and it sharpens the discernment of the public as to its existence. By increasing the public sensibility and humanity, it renders the separation of the lunatic from his fellow-men necessary, and enjoins the provision of due care and treatment for him. The crazy imbecile, who, five hundred years ago, would have been the privileged provoker of rude jest and merriment in the baronial hall, and who, fifty years since, would have roamed the hamlet or the fields, exposed to the persecutions of malicious urchins, on whom he would occasionally wreak a frantic revenge, is now protected within the precincts of a county asylum, and forms one of the aggregate of chronic patients, tranquil, occupied, self-respecting, and happy. At the present day, society neither chooses to incur the danger of monomaniacs at large, nor the disgust inspired by idiots; it insists upon separating from itself these, its imperfect members, partly from motives of true humanity, and partly from selfish motives of fear or of outraged sensibility; and the result of a great accumulation of chronic lunatics in asylums ought not to cause surprise by its amount, nor complaint on account of its expense.

The Commissioners show that during the same period of time in which the pauper lunatics of England and Wales have increased 64 per cent., the number of private patients has only increased from 4,065 to 40,671, or about 15 per cent.—a fact which they justly consider confirmative of their opinion, that the increase of insanity is, in a great degree, to be attributed to its having become more completely and generally recognized, and that it is, indeed, more apparent than real. The Commissioners make some judicious and humane remarks upon the practice which has sprung up of sending insane persons to county lunatic asylums who are far removed from the condition of paupers; the transaction being effected by arrangement between the relatives of the patient and the parochial officers. This has been a cause of complaint,

because it tends to preoccupy the asylum accommodation intended for the true pauper lunatic; but the Commissioners think that the statutory definition of pauper, as "every person maintained wholly or in part by, or chargeable to, any union or county," seems to countenance, if it does not justify, the practice; and they think that the prevention of this practice would often lead the relatives, who would otherwise contribute to the support of such patient, to throw themselves and the patient entirely upon the parochial funds. There is much justice in these observations; but the practice, nevertheless, appears to us an evasion of the spirit of the statute; and it is certainly one which, unless watched, may creep into a great and glaring abuse. The upper classes have already shouldered the middle classes out of many of the charitable institutions of the country, and it would now seem that there is some probability that this kind of encroachment will go one step lower, and that when disease and distress overtake members of the middle class, they will not disdain to eat the bread of the pauper.

As an instance of the extent to which the abuse above referred to may be carried, we may mention that we once ourselves admitted a girl of eighteen, as a pauper lunatic, into a county asylum, whose father was worth a hundred thousand pounds, and who was herself an heiress to the amount of ten thousand pounds. Her miserly father brought her to the asylum strapped down to a seat, in an open cart, and with a strait waistcoat on. She happily recovered, and rode away from the pauper institution in the style of an equestrian young lady in Rotten Row.

The Commissioners also refer to their own exertions in removing no inconsiderable number of insane poor from work-houses to county asylums, and they conclude with the following observations:

"If all these considerations are taken into account, it will excite little surprise that the strenuous efforts which of late years have been made in England to provide for the insane poor in public asylums should have been unable to keep pace with the growing demand for such provision; and that a large and every year augmenting mass of chronic, and probably hopeless, cases should become accumulated in these institutions, occupying much of the available accommodation there, to the exclusion, it is to be feared, of many other cases, to which, as being of recent date, the earliest remedial treatment would be most important."

Notwithstanding the great number of lunatic poor in the asylums, the Commissioners estimate the number of insane persons receiving parochial relief, and not in asylums, at no fewer than 10,500, of whom about one half are detained in workhouses, and one half are living at

large with relatives or strangers. The Commissioners consider that this large number of lunatics are only "to a limited extent under their cognizance." We are somewhat surprised at this avowal, as it is perfectly obvious that no class of the insane poor stand so much in need of the cognizance of the Commissioners in Lunacy as this does. Once placed in an asylum, the insane pauper is under the protection of a staff of responsible officers and a board of visiting justices, and certainly stands less in need of the cognizance of the Commissioners in Lunacy, in proportion to the amount of care and protection thus afforded. But it is notorious that the insane poor that are confined in work-houses are protected from cruelty and ill treatment in no such manner; neglect, indeed, must necessarily be their lot, for the union houses have no class of persons charged with, or responsible for their care. The functionaries of such institutions generally consist of the master and matron, the porter, cook, schoolmaster, and infirmary nurse; these have their hands full of their own peculiar duties, and the charge of any insane inmates falls to the lot of the other pauper inmates, who may fairly be excused for objecting to the aggravation of their privations and confinement by the companionship of wretched and mindless beings, whose habits are too often offensive and disgusting by day, and destructive of repose by night. It is not to be expected that the sane inmates of union houses should be remarkable for their good sense, humanity, or forbearance. On the contrary, they form one class of the outcasts of society, and if their lunatic companions are not absolutely persecuted by them out of mere malignity, it certainly is not to be wondered at that they should sometimes use very harsh measures to prevent the quietude of their dormitories being disturbed by the restless habits of insane persons, so unjustly thrust into their fellowship. The Commissioners state that four-fifths of the insane paupers in work-houses may be described as harmless imbeciles, and that "in the remainder the infirmity of mind is combined with or consequent upon epilepsy, paralysis, or is merely the fatuity of superannuation or old age;" and comparatively few come under the description of lunatics or idiots, as the terms are properly understood. We entertain, however, little faith in the harmlessness of such imbeciles, believing that a large proportion of the catastrophes which have arisen from the violence of persons of unsound mind have been caused by individuals of this class. Perhaps this fact, which the records of criminal justice will amply illustrate, may be explained by their being more subject to persecution and annoyance, and by their receiving less systematic supervision than any other class of persons. We certainly think that insane paralytics and epileptics need a full share of care and protec-

tion. Of the 5,000 insane paupers living with their relatives or strangers, on a parish allowance, the Commissioners admit that their information is comparatively scanty; that this class very seldom falls within their personal observation, and that their knowledge of them depends almost entirely on annual returns received from clerks of boards of guardians, and on the quarterly returns of medical officers of unions. We entertain a strong conviction that there is only one other class of insane persons whose unprotected condition more imperatively demands the full cognizance of the Commissioners than these 5,000 insane paupers living with relatives or strangers, of whom the Commissioners admit that they know next to nothing. The class which most needs their cognizance is one of which they know still less,—one of which no returns are made, either quarterly or annually,—one subjected to no visitation, and under no protection; it is the class of insane persons living with relatives, or with strangers, and not in the receipt of parochial relief. From our own personal observation and inquiries, we are convinced that this class is a very large one. We know scarcely a parish that does not contain examples of it, and we venture to affirm that in England and Wales there is a much larger number of insane persons living as single patients, ostensibly not kept for profit, of whom the Commissioners in Lunacy receive no returns, of whose condition they know nothing, and of whose very existence they are ignorant; that of such persons there is a much larger number than of those who are confined in licensed houses and registered hospitals, upon whom the cognizance of responsible officials, of visiting justices, and of lunacy commissioners appears to be fixed and concentrated. We trust that in the new Lunacy Bill, which we understand to be in preparation, any deficiency of power which the Commissioners may labor under for extending their knowledge and their influence to those insane persons who most of all need their protection will be fully remedied, and that in future reports they will not have to speak of large classes of the insane who are only to a limited extent under their cognizance.

The Commissioners report that the condition of the lunatic wards which are attached to some of the larger work-houses is extremely unsatisfactory. Patients are often placed in large numbers in these wards, "where, with really far more personal confinement than in asylums, they have far less of physical comfort, and little chance of skillful and systematic treatment." The inmates are left without occupation or amusement. The pauper "attendants are either gratuitous, or so badly organized and so badly requited that no reliance can be placed on their services." The Commissioners have used their best endeavors

or remedy the obvious defects of these places of detention, while they abstained from giving any official sanction to their construction.

We know not what inference to draw from the wretched condition of these places, unless it be the irremediable parsimony of boards of guardians, and their unfitness to have the charge of their insane poor. We are aware of no other obstacle, except this unfitness, which should prevent the lunatic ward of a large work-house from being constructed as commodiously, and furnished as suitably with all means and appliances for the comfort of the insane, as a ward in a county asylum. We trust that, in any future agitation for legislative enactments which would give to rate-payers or guardians any new control over pauper lunatics, the Commissioners' report on lunatic wards will not be forgotten.

On the subject of attendants upon the insane the Commissioners justly remark, that the skill and judgment of a superintendent or proprietor are of no avail, unless he be zealously supported and his orders effectually carried out by an adequate staff of well-qualified attendants. They should "combine firmness and gentleness," and be able by their education and habits to superintend, direct, and promote the employment and recreation of the patients. The Commissioners state that a marked improvement has taken place in these respects; but at the same time they mention the unpleasant fact, that a great and increasing difficulty exists in procuring good attendants. We are of opinion that it has become the fashion to expect somewhat too much from this most important class of servants, or rather, perhaps, we ought to say, to expect incompatible qualities from them. We are somewhat like the man who attempted to keep a pair of horses, which he sometimes hunted, sometimes drove in his phaeton, and sometimes attached to his plough: draught work made them fall and break their knees when he rode them, the plough spoilt their appearance for the carriage, and their hunting experience made them run after a cry of hounds with harrows at their heels, which completed the experiment by laming and foundering them.

We expect attendants to combine firmness and gentleness. It is a prettily turned phrase, but how many of us combine a due proportion of these qualities? Surely, if attendants possess gentleness, patience, and good sense, the quality of immutable firmness may well be excused to them. On occasions when it is really needed, let it be exercised by the superintendent.

They should be educated, and their habits should enable them to promote and direct employment. But are not habits of industry, which may be taken to mean agricultural employment, somewhat unusual

with an educated state? Surely we expect from them as various uses as were served by Hudibras' ladle-handled dagger, which cut bread or broke a head, melted bullets, boiled pullets, &c. The true wisdom in the employment of attendants is to keep them cheerful and happy; not to oppress them, or expect too much from them; to develop their good qualities, and to know how and when to correct lightly, or even to wink at their little faults. Thus only shall we get them to discharge their duties, always arduous, and often odious, with right good will. Good officers make good attendants, and bad ones drive them away, or spoil them. Next to the influence of bad attendants upon patients, there is nothing more unpleasant to notice than the harsh treatment of attendants themselves, by arrogant and exacting officers. Constantly to suspect confidential servants is the way to ensure eye-service and deception, the privileges of the oppressed.

The Commissioners recommend the system of head attendants, and, we think, with justice; but it is not always an easy matter to introduce such an officer over the heads of old and tried servants, who have for years held themselves responsible to the master only. The lady-companion for female patients of the upper class is also pronounced to be most useful. This improvement has been imported from Dumfries, an institution where enterprise in ameliorating the condition of the insane, by every possible means, is ever active. We learn from the last report of its most able physician, that a lady of fortune has devoted her time and her means to this new kind of employment. A Miss Nightingale among the mad folk. All honor and success to her noble self-devotion!

The Commissioners conclude their remarks upon attendants by a notice of their register of those dismissed for misconduct. They might have told us that this register was a failure, and that neither superintendents nor proprietors will accept their interpretation of the statute, and understand a servant leaving to prevent dismissal, as actually dismissed. Neither do superintendents apply to know whether applicants for employment are in this black book or not, seeing that it is far more direct and satisfactory to apply at once to the superintendent in whose service the applicant has been. The only possible method by which the Commissioners could have rendered their black book serviceable would have been to have circulated its contents among superintendents. But this they ascertained would have rendered them liable to actions of libel, so the whole affair is practically a mere *brutum fulmen*.

Finally, we are deeply obliged to the Commissioners in Lunacy for

their most excellent report, replete as it is with valuable information and important suggestions. The style, also, is earnest, vigorous, and pure, and an immense improvement on that of some former reports. We are indebted for this to the skillful pen of Mr. Proctor. We have discussed some of the subjects on which it treats, with freedom and candor. In doing this, however, we have felt most deeply the respect due to the high official position, extended information, and untiring philanthropy of its authors; while, at the same time, we have not been forgetful that our own long and practical experience on these subjects justifies a free discussion of controvertible points, and an independent expression of earnest convictions.

J. C. B.

ARTICLE V.

THE MASSACHUSETTS LUNACY COMMISSION.

The Commission of Lunacy appointed by the resolution of the Legislature of Massachusetts, during the session of 1854, presented in March, 1855, as the results of their labors, the able report, a review of which, by the late Dr. Beck, appeared in the October number of this Journal. The Joint Standing Committee on Charitable Institutions, to whom the matter was referred, reported a bill to establish a third hospital in the western part of the State, and accompanied it by a report, from which we make the following extracts:

"The causes of insanity are as prevalent and active among us as ever, and every year produces its own supply of the insane. This year will produce as many new cases of mental derangement as the last, and the next will produce as many in proportion to the population as this. Of course, those who are not healed will be added to the number of the permanently incurable. This annual addition ought not to be more than one-fifth of all who are attacked. The other four-fifths should be restored to health and power of self-sustenance and general usefulness.

"However willing the people and the authorities might have been to heal all of their insane friends and wards, they could not have hitherto accomplished this purpose; nor can they now, because there have not been, nor are there now, sufficient means.

"It is a well-established principle, that the insane cannot recover amidst the ordinary circumstances and influences of home as those who suffer from other diseases, but they must be removed from the familiar associations and scenes to others which are new and strange to them.

"Diseases of the mind are affected by the influences that reach it. It is necessary, therefore, that these should be controlled, and that only such as are favorable should be allowed to reach the patients. This can be best done in the hospitals, where everything is arranged for, and adapted to, the condition and the wants of those who are submitted to their care. In these institutions the curable are healed, the violent are subdued, the excitable are controlled, and those who are elsewhere troublesome are there easily calmed and managed.

"But these means of cure and of control have never been sufficient to meet the wants of all the sufferers from insanity. From the beginning our hospitals have been filled. Although the McLean Asylum and the Worcester and Boston Hospitals have been enlarged from time to time, to satisfy the pressing demands for their accommodations, their wards have been immediately occupied by those who were near, or whose friends best understood their advantages; but at no time has the supply been sufficient for the real wants of all who could and ought to profit by them. Consequently, many of the insane of Massachusetts have never been able to enjoy the influences of a hospital, and many others have been sent there only after their day of healing was past. These have, therefore, remained uncured and incurable, and their friends, or the towns, or the State have been and are obliged to support them as long as they live.

"Now the hospitals are all filled, and some are overflowing; and yet there are six hundred and five insane persons in the State who are not in any such institution, but who ought to be there. Two hundred and ten of these have been deranged but a few months, and are, therefore, curable; they need the hospital to restore them to health. Ninety of these are violent and dangerous; they need the custody of a hospital for the safety of the community. Four hundred and eight of these are excitable and troublesome; they annoy their families and disturb their neighborhoods, and should be confined for the sake of the public peace.

"Unless some means besides those now provided are offered for their cure, these two hundred and ten recent cases will ere long become incurable, and their support for life will be entailed upon their friends or the community. These violent and the excitable patients are now cared for at their homes, with great trouble and cost, by those who have charge of them, and with some danger and much annoyance to their

families and neighborhood. These six hundred and five are the surplus over and above those for whom the means are furnished in Massachusetts for the healing or the protection of its insane people. Their claims come to us in a manner not to be resisted. The curable ask to be restored to health and usefulness, and to the power of self-sustenance; the others ask to be protected from evil, and saved from the danger of injuring others. These speak not for themselves alone, but also for those who will follow in their train, and become insane in this and the succeeding years, as they have.

"Insanity is produced by manifold and various causes and circumstances. Some of these are inherent in man, some are created by the customs of society, and others are allowed, and even encouraged, in the social law; all of them are, or have been, present with us; and they will continue to be active among us until the character and influences of our civilization shall be changed.

"It is just and reasonable that every age and every year should meet and discharge its own responsibilities, and bear the burdens which it creates or permits to be created, and transmit the world, with its privileges and advantages, unburdened and untrammelled, to those who come after it.

"There is a natural and an honorable aversion to incurring debts. It seems neither right nor generous that the people of any year, or of any generation, should assume an obligation by the creation of any good, or for the enjoyment of advantage, or for the endurance of any evil, and then throw the responsibility of meeting and discharging it upon their successors. This is often done; but it is never justifiable except when the advantage that is to be immediately gained is also to be transmitted to, and shared by, the succeeding generation who are to pay, or where the evil to be endured is one of great magnitude and rarely repeated, whose burden should be divided among others as well as those upon whom it first comes.

"The creation or the development of insanity is practically a debt, which the friends of the sufferer or the public treasury must inevitably discharge, either by paying the cost of its removal or for his support during life. It is an obligation of the surest fulfillment; for the town or the state is necessarily the endorser of every insane person, and binds itself to pay all the expenses of his sickness and sustenance that his own estate or his friends do not, however long it may be needed.

"The question, then, is, whether this obligation should be discharged at once, by taking immediate measures for the cure of the patient, and paying the due cost manfully and generously, or whether, by the neg-

lect of these measures, this obligation shall be thrown upon future years, requiring each to contribute an enormous proportion to sustain it.

"The people in any year may build a hospital, and borrow the money needed for its cost, with the engagement to pay it at a future period. In this way they throw the responsibility of payment upon another year and age; but with the debt they transfer the property, the hospital for which it is created; and those who are thus required to discharge the obligation receive also a fair equivalent, and no injustice is done.

"But if the present year creates, or allows to be created, any cases of insanity, and fails to discharge its obligation of curing it, and, by neglecting to use the proper means, throws the burden of supporting the patient through life upon the future years, it transmits with this obligation no property, no value, to compensate for the payment, and those who pay it receive nothing but the ruins of humanity from the hands of those who created it.

"In the creation and the payment of an ordinary debt, the year which incurs it, and the intermediate years, pay only the interest, and the last year only pays the full amount. But in the obligation of supporting permanent insanity, the first and the succeeding years, as well as the last, each and all, pay the same—almost as much as would have been required to pay it all off at once, by curing it in the beginning. In the case of the common debt it is paid only once, and the property is received with a clear title; while the other years, which pay the interest, enjoy and have the use of this property in return. But in the case of insanity, the obligation is multiplied and discharged almost as many times as there may be years in the patient's life; and they who annually pay it have suffering, anxiety, and loss, rather than enjoyment and profit.

"It is, then, no more than the common wisdom that is applied to the ordinary business of life, to take such measures as will secure the early treatment of the insane, and give them the best opportunity of restoration that the age affords, and by this means reduce, in the future at least, the number of permanent lunatics to that small proportion whose malady is, from its very nature, incurable.

"As there are not hospitals enough to admit all who need them, it is necessary to build more; but neither the patients who want them, nor their friends or guardians, can do this, nor is it well to leave it to private speculation to build them.

"Considering that the state and its towns are the responsible indorsers of every person that becomes insane, and must pay the cost of his restoration at once, or of his support during life, however long that

may be, provided his friends cannot do it; considering, also, that this responsibility has become so great that the public are now supporting 1,522 insane persons in and out of hospitals, at the cost of more than one hundred and sixty-four thousand dollars (\$164,724) a year; that 1,262 of these are incurable, and claim a life support from the general treasury, and that about half of them were self-supporters until they lost their mental health; considering, then, how great and unavoidable an interest the body politic has in every case of insanity, it is a reasonable economy and a good investment of capital for the commonwealth to build all the hospitals that may be needed for the early and prompt cure and the proper management of insanity.

"As the demand upon the public treasuries for the support of insanity, which the state and the towns recognize and pay, knows no other limit than the number of the insane and the length of their disease, or the duration of their lives, so the duty of providing the means for their cure and protection should be measured only by the necessities of those who should profit by them.

"In view of these principles, and of the six hundred and five insane persons in Massachusetts who need the accommodations of a public institution suitable for their cure or their protection, the Committee advise that the state now build another hospital, and place it in one of the four western counties."

The ability with which the Report of the Commissioners has been prepared, the hearty response of the Legislature to the views advanced, and their prompt action, show most conclusively that a wiser and more humane policy is beginning to influence our legislative bodies in providing for the insane. The publication, in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, of a letter from Dr. Jarvis, in behalf of the Commissioners, expressing to the medical profession and others their obligation for assistance rendered them in the prosecution of their labors, has called forth, in a recent number of the same journal, the following editorial remarks:

"We cannot let the subject pass without a few more words of comment. The facts brought to light by the Commissioners proved to be an appeal, whose eloquence, louder than words, and more effective than any oratory, has wrought alike upon the minds and hearts of those whose action was needed. In no other way, indeed, could the results, upon which every one must look with pride and gratitude, have been obtained. It was only necessary to offer the convincing proof adduced by the Commission to an appreciating body of men. The labor was great, but it has been well rewarded in the attainment of its objects,

to an extent which we believe the most sanguine could hardly have expected.

"It may be well to advert, briefly, to certain of the facts which have come to our knowledge.

"For a period of *seventeen* years there had been no new hospital prepared for the rapidly increasing numbers of the insane in Massachusetts, and no new accommodations, even, for six years, when a large and respectable commission, after a careful and laborious survey, represented the necessity of action to the legislature of 1849, presenting facts sufficient to make their statements valid throughout. The appeal was fruitless, and nothing more was done till 1851, when the Taunton Hospital was decreed. It was built, and *filled* almost as soon as erected. Its occupancy dates back to April, 1854.

"Within a year after this was effected, a proposition was put forward for a third hospital, grounding the application upon the array of undeniable facts which the Commission ascertained from the medical profession, in their recent survey of the state, and which showed the great number of the insane yet unprovided for, and their probable increase, and demonstrated the imperative necessity of further accommodations.

"The proposition was received with favor, and found active friends in both branches of the Legislature; the Committee on Charitable Institutions took charge of the Commissioners' Report, after having had it read to them in manuscript by one of the Commissioners. From the fact that it covered 350 pages, it may be imagined that much time was occupied in reading and hearing it. In fact the Committee devoted several evenings to it with great cheerfulness. They were satisfied with its assertions (all ratified by figures), consented to its proposals, and recommended them to the Legislature for acceptance and fulfillment, and also that a large edition be printed for circulation throughout the state. The Legislature subsequently ordered the Report to be laid upon the table for further consideration, and also that, in addition to the usual number of 1,600 copies stricken off, 5,000 should be printed; thus showing their entire appreciation of its value and pressing importance. Afterwards, 3,500 additional copies were ordered for the use of the Commission, and as many to be bound as were necessary for distribution among the physicians of the state, &c. In all, 10,100 copies were issued.

"So fully were the members of the Legislature impressed with the undeniable need of all that was proposed by the Commission, that when the matter came up for decision and the voting of appropriations, there

was no debate at all; no speeches for or against the measure; all were prepared to support it and through every stage of the progress of the measure there was no dissenting voice or vote. There was not even a doubt manifested or a question raised—publicly, at any rate—as to its propriety. Truly, this was a most gratifying thing to the Commissioners, who had toiled so well in a good cause, sadly neglected for so long a time! Even the Governor, who had feared that the treasury was already exhausted, and felt that he could sanction no more grants except such as were imperiously demanded, said that such an array of facts required his signature.

“Not only was the law passed establishing this third hospital, but the conditions, and the manner of imposing them, were altogether the most favorable. The bearing of the legislative Committee, and of the members at large, towards the Commissioners (who in this case represented the medical profession), was a matter of peculiar satisfaction. The most agreeable relations were established. The Commissioners were requested to draw up a bill expressing their views; the Committee on Finance, without hesitation, asked how much money would be required for the purposes desired to be effected, and at once accepted the stated sum (\$200,000); the Legislature unhesitatingly voted it, and the hospital was established.

“This is one of the freest and most liberal grants ever made in this state or elsewhere for charitable purposes. When the Worcester Hospital was created, small grants were made at different times. In the case of the Taunton Hospital, one half of the requisite sum, only, was ordered at first; thus the buildings and other operations were materially cramped and delayed. In the instance of the third hospital, however, the whole \$200,000 was granted and made available at once; the Building Commissioners knew the whole extent of their means, and that they were sufficient for all their purposes. These results are due to the confidence which the Legislature and men of influence have in the medical profession, and which each member placed in his own physician and others of his acquaintance, who he knew had contributed a part of the facts, and had apparently sanctioned the conclusions drawn from them.

“The efforts of the Commission set the machinery in motion which operated so widely and so well; and the willing concurrence of the medical men of the state was most effectual and gratifying.

“As this is the first time that our whole state profession has appeared before the Legislature, and as in this they have been completely successful, it is a matter for congratulation, both on account of their almost universal co-operation, and also of the manifest hold they have upon the

confidence of the people and of those who represent them in the government. And it should furthermore encourage physicians to unite and exert themselves in any cause worthy of such an effort. How many such there are, and how much might be effected by the combined wisdom and strength of a profession, the vast majority of which is actuated by motives of the purest philanthropy!

"The examples we have in the zeal and efficiency displayed by the Commissioners upon Lunacy, and in the noble concurrence of the Massachusetts Legislature of 1855, are, in their views and wishes, worthy of universal admiration and imitation."

ARTICLE VI.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL.

REPORTS OF AMERICAN ASYLUMS.

I. Reports of the Trustees, Steward and Superintendent of the Maine Insane Hospital, 1854. Augusta, Maine, 1855.

The Trustees of the Maine Hospital report that, during the past year, the appropriation granted by the previous Legislature has been applied to the partial erection of another wing which, when finished, will materially increase the capacity of the institution. The early completion of this wing is represented as very desirable, in order to afford accommodation for a large class of females now confined, from the necessity of the case, in a detached cottage, "which it is found impossible to make a suitable place for patients." An additional appropriation is asked for this purpose.

The Trustees, in the following extract, again urge upon the Legislature the repeal of a law passed in 1849, to which we have before called the attention of our readers. The case cited is certainly strong enough to carry conviction to the mind of any legislator, and it is a matter of surprise that its repetition has been found necessary.

"The Trustees would call your attention to that portion of their report of last year which refers to the discharge of patients from the Hospital. Formerly a patient could only be discharged by the Superintendent; but there was an appeal from him to the Trustees. By the law of August, 1847, an appeal was given to two justices, *quorum unum*. By the

law of August, 1849, the municipal authorities of the place to which the patient belonged were authorized, when he had been confined six months, to inquire into his case, and to remove him if they thought proper, however strongly the Superintendent might remonstrate against it. Practically, no investigation takes place; but, in some small towns where selfish feelings are not restrained by a wholesome public sentiment, the selectmen, for the sake of a reputation for economy, will sometimes remove the most dangerous homicidal patients. A strong case was mentioned in last year's report. Ward, who, in a fit of insanity, had maimed his brother for life, was sent to the Hospital. At the end of six months he was removed by the selectmen of Whitefield, against the remonstrances of the Superintendent. He was then set up at auction to be kept by the lowest bidder. Subsequently he murdered his best friend, Michael Skene, for which he was tried during the present year, and is now at the Hospital, at the expense of the state, the town of Whitefield thus saving two dollars a week by the murder of one of its most respectable citizens. The trustees cannot too strongly urge the repeal of the law of August, 1849, giving persons incompetent to form a correct judgment in the case, the power of removing dangerous patients from the Hospital."

Early in August an epidemic of *diarrhaal dysentery* made its appearance in the institution, and continued three months, during which time ninety were seized with the disease, seventeen of whom died, sixteen patients and one attendant. At the suggestion of several distinguished physicians, a thorough examination of the asylum was instituted, to endeavor, if possible, to ascertain the cause of the sickness and prescribe a remedy. Drs. Hubbard, Briggs and Hall, gentlemen of high professional standing, accordingly made a thorough investigation of the premises, but were unable to discover any adequate cause for the existence of the disease.

In the midst of the epidemic, Dr. Harlow, the Superintendent, was himself prostrated by the prevailing disease, and was for a month unable to discharge his professional duties. In addition to the unfortunate prevalence of a severe epidemic within its walls, and the inopportune illness of its Superintendent, the institution was unprovided with an assistant medical officer, and its trustees were obliged to seek the aid of a neighboring physician, who, however able he might have been as a practitioner, was unacquainted with the circumstances attending each patient, and which, if known, would modify the treatment, and necessarily unaccustomed to the use of the varied appliances, a familiarity with which is at such a time especially desirable. Under these circumstances, therefore, it is not surprising that in the history of the epidemic the attendant mortality was large. After this sad experience the Trustees were satisfied that the appointment of an Assistant Physician should not be longer delayed.

Dr. Harlow presents in his report the following statistics:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining, Nov. 30th, 1853	61	58	119
Admitted during the year	57	53	110
Whole number treated	118	111	229
Discharged during the year	56	58	114
Remaining, Nov. 30th, 1854	62	53	115
Average population, 129.			

Of those discharged there were,—

Recovered	26	23	49
Improved	4	11	15
Unimproved	10	8	18
Died	16	16	32
Total	56	58	114

Since the opening of the institution, in 1841, fourteen hundred and thirty patients have been admitted, five hundred and ninety of whom have been discharged recovered. As an interesting fact in the etiology of insanity, the records of the hospital show that of twelve hundred patients, whose history is therein contained, five hundred and eighty-six had insane relatives.

A greater portion of Dr. Harlow's report is occupied with the consideration of matters of local interest; from some general remarks introduced towards its close we make the following extracts:

"Errors in the early training and education of children have much to do in laying the foundation and paving the way for insanity. When this is added to an hereditary predisposition, as it sometimes is, few escape the awful calamity. Even in this point of view, how important and responsible is the position of parents, and all who have the training and education of children, especially when they have insane ancestors or blood relations! Children predisposed to insanity by hereditary taint should be allowed to follow their own inclinations only so far as tends to their best good, both in a mental and physical point of view. Nothing is more important—more conducive to mental health, than that they, from earliest infancy, be taught the principles of self-government. The individual who, in early life—through childhood and youth—never had his inclinations thwarted or his passions subdued, is but ill prepared to enter the arena of public life—to stem its mighty current—to brook the reverses and disappointments which meet him, almost at every point.

"There is a disposition, at the present day, to commence the intellectual instruction of children at a very early age, and push it beyond what the tender, plastic brain will bear; while the moral faculties—the feelings and affections—are left, with little or no culture, to follow

their own bent or inclination. Thus insidiously and silently much evil is often produced to the organ of the mind, that can never be eradicated. Not much is ever gained by unduly exercising the soft and delicate brain of childhood—by urging forward the tender, opening bud into a kind of hot-house growth, however the result which immediately follows may pamper and please the false ambition of doting parents. Few who exhibit precocity of intellect in their early years ever fulfill the expectation of their friends in after-life.

“‘No physician,’ says the *Quarterly Review*, ‘doubts that precocious children, fifty cases for one, are much the worse for the discipline they have undergone. The mind seems to have been strained, and the foundation for insanity is laid. When the studies of mature years are stuffed into the head of a child, people do not reflect upon the anatomical fact, that the brain of a child is not the brain of a man,—that the one is conformed and can bear exertion, and the other is growing and requires repose;—that to force the attention to abstract facts,—to load the memory with chronological and historical or scientific data,—in short, to expect a child’s brain to bear with impunity the exertion of a man’s, is as rational as it would be to hazard the same sort of experiments on its muscles.’

“We were most forcibly struck, in reading, not long since, an account of a class of students which graduated at one of our New England colleges, in 1827. It was found that of this class, numbering twenty-three, all but two had survived the lapse of a quarter of a century; and it was also found that nearly every member of that class had arrived at adult age before entering college; thus escaping that premature excitement and development of the intellect which paves the way to mental disease, and furnishes tenants for many an early grave.”

II. Reports of the Board of Visitors, Trustees, Superintendent and Treasurer, and Building Committee of the New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane, June Session, 1855. Concord, 1855.

The Reports of the several officers here presented bear evidence of the continued prosperity of the institution. In the New Hampshire Asylum, as in nearly all our public asylums for the insane, the demand for more extended accommodation has been deeply felt; and, during the year which closes with the date of this Report, additional provision has been made, by the erection of a cottage, for twenty-four patients.

From the Report of the Superintendent, Dr. John E. Tyler, we extract the following statistics :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining, May 31st, 1854	77	84	161
Admitted during the year	45	40	85
Whole number treated	122	124	246
Discharged during the year.....	50	41	91
Remaining May 31st, 1855	72	83	155

Average population, 162.

Of those discharged there were,—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Recovered	29	21	50
Partially recovered	11	9	20
Unimproved	4	5	9
Died	6	6	12
Total	50	41	91

From a table presenting the general statistics of the institution it appears that, since its opening in 1847, the whole number admitted has been twelve hundred and eighty-four, five hundred and forty-one of whom have been restored to their usual health. Among those reported as "recovered," during the year is a man of intelligence and education, who had been an inmate of the institution for nearly eleven years.

The crowded condition of the Asylum, and the large number of applications for admission necessarily refused, induced Dr. Tyler, in considering the subject of increased accommodation for the insane of New Hampshire, to investigate the whole matter very thoroughly. In this connection he remarks :

"We have taken some pains to ascertain the present number of the insane in the state. Circulars have been sent to every city and town, and from the returns of these, and from other sources of information at our command, we find that, at present, some thirty-five persons belonging to this state are supported by their friends or guardians in hospitals in other states, and that there are now residing in the state more than five hundred and fifty insane persons, only one hundred and fifty-five of whom are in this Asylum. Of the remainder many are kindly and comfortably taken care of at home, or with friends, or at alms-houses; but others are chained, and caged, and sadly neglected, in filth, and exposure to the inclemencies of the weather. Some instances of cruelty and neglect have lately come to our knowledge that, if known, would startle the neighborhoods in which they have occurred.

"These facts show very plainly the necessity existing for increased accommodations for the insane. It is not right to overcrowd those who are here, and thus interfere with their comfort and diminish the chances of their recovery. We can, during the coming year, take care of as large a number as we have done, and no more, without doing a serious injury to the whole; and it remains, therefore, with the Legislature to decide whether all or a part only of those seeking admission here shall receive the benefits which this institution can give."

III. *Eighteenth Annual Report of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Vermont Asylum for the Insane. August, 1854. Brattleboro, Vt., 1854.*

In the preparation of his annual reports, Dr. Rockwell confines himself to a simple detail of the operation of the institution under his care, on which account they are necessarily brief, and possess little of general interest beyond the statistics they present.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining, August 1st, 1853	183	189	372
Admitted during the year	77	86	163
Whole number treated	260	275	535
Discharged during the year	72	74	146
Remaining, August 1st, 1854	188	201	389
Of those discharged there were,—			
Recovered			80
Improved			12
Not improved			14
Died			40
Total			146

"Since the opening of the Asylum, two thousand and twenty-nine patients have been admitted; eighteen hundred and forty have been discharged, and three hundred and eighty-nine remain in the institution. Of the eighteen hundred and forty who have been discharged, one thousand and forty-eight have recovered, equal to 56.95 per cent. Of those placed in the Asylum within six months from the date of the attack, nearly nine-tenths have recovered."

IV. *Report of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts General Hospital, presented to the Corporation, at their Annual Meeting, January 24th, 1855. Boston, Mass., 1855.*

The Report of Dr. Bell, Physician and Superintendent of the Mc Lean Asylum for the Insane, incorporated as usual in the above general Report, is very brief, and we are able, without intrenching upon our limits, to copy it nearly entire.

"During the year which has just closed, there have been received into this department of the institution under your supervision one hundred and twenty patients,—seventy males and fifty females,—and the same number has been discharged; of whom sixty-seven were males, and fifty-three females. The entire number under care has been three hundred and fifteen,—one hundred and sixty-four males and one hundred and fifty-one females.

"Of those discharged, following the customary approximations incidental to such returns, fifty-nine (thirty-two males, and twenty-seven females) have been registered as *recovered*; three males and four females, as *much improved*; eleven males and three females, as *improved*; ten males and five females, as *not improved*; five males and eleven females have *died* of various diseases. Six males and three females have been here, who do not properly fall under these usual descriptive terms. They were here only for a few days; generally for safe keeping, until friends could ascertain whether they could be admitted to other hospitals, and similar reasons, connected with the extreme pressure upon the Asylum for admissions. It seems necessary to repeat the expression of the hope, hitherto so earnestly set forth in our reports, that patients should never be sent hither without first communicating with the institution, and ascertaining whether vacancies exist. Patients, especially, who have previously been here, are often re-sent without notice,—a course calculated to bring great inconvenience upon their friends or ourselves.

"The endeavor has been made, with considerable success, to restrict the entire number of patients to two hundred. As there is a natural tendency to accumulate in the class of patients where protection only is looked for, the numbers admitted must in future be less rather than increased.

"I cannot but believe that the time is near, when the necessity of dividing this Asylum, and establishing a department for one sex elsewhere in the vicinity, will result in action. The financial experience of this establishment, for many years past, would seem to demonstrate, that the first outlay for such an addition to the means of treatment of those classes of the insane who are now mainly received here, would be all the demand needful upon the philanthropic and liberal of our community. With so much valuable experience as to the precise want to be met, the capital needed, as compared with the outlay on this spot, would be materially lessened.

"With this brief statement, everything seems to be communicated to your Board which can properly be of interest or advantage to the community. At this advanced epoch in the history of institutions of this kind, there can be no occasion for entering into the considerations, once novel and important, of the value of the hospital treatment of the insane. And the solid establishment of an able quarterly journal devoted to insanity among us, affords a much more appropriate channel for intercommunications touching our special duties, than the pages of our annual reports, which were formerly called into that service."

V. *Twenty-second Annual Report of the Trustees of the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester. December, 1854. Boston, Mass., 1855.*

The present Report of the Trustees of the Asylum at Worcester is most interesting, and deserves something more than a passing notice. The institution under their care is as widely known as any other in this country, and was once regarded with feelings of pride by the Commonwealth, and held up as a model in construction and organization; but that high rank has been lost, and the institution has fallen, in a

measure, behind the age. The Board of Trustees, however, have not allowed themselves to remain satisfied with past usefulness, nor to be blinded by the brilliancy of its earlier history to its present condition, but, in an enlightened spirit of progress, have resolutely investigated the influences which have impaired its usefulness, and ably and earnestly urge upon the Legislature a more liberal and humane policy.

As the causes which have led to this effect are operative, not at Worcester alone, but in every public institution in the land, we cannot, we think, better subserve the interests of the insane, or more usefully occupy our space, than by making free extracts from its pages.

"Under ordinary circumstances, this Report might well be very concise, and confined to a summary of the principal events of the year; But, in the actual state of the case, in the present condition of the question concerning the provisions to be made for the insane of the Commonwealth, and in the prospect of legislative action upon the whole subject, greater diffuseness may be allowed.

"In setting forth the condition of the Hospital, and the remedies for its defects, it will be necessary to examine certain principles and modes of treatment, which, though familiar to professional, are not so to unprofessional readers. Arguments that would be held superfluous, considerations that would be deemed perfectly trite, by a body of physicians, may be appropriately addressed to those whose studies and occupations have not familiarized them with the subject of insanity, but who may be called upon to take measures for the cure and care of the insane of the state.

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"However far short the Institution may have fallen of doing the greatest possible good with its means, it certainly has continued to carry on, with marked success, the work of Christian charity allotted to it by the state; and another year of good deeds may be added to its history of beneficence. That history has been glorious in the best sense; and Massachusetts may reflect upon it with as much satisfaction as upon any part of her annals. Had she erected at Worcester a military academy and an arsenal, from which to draw men and weapons to conquer in a hundred fields, she could not have won such precious laurels as she earned within these walls.

"Since the opening of this Hospital, four thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven persons have been received within its friendly gates. Of these, two thousand one hundred and seventy-two have gone forth again clad in their right minds, or have partially recovered. Others, secluded from the world (which to them was one of excitement and suffering, while to it they were a terror and a burden), here pass their days peacefully, and receive that respectful attention due to every being in human shape, however ruined and degraded he may be; and those to whom the end comes, have their eyes gently closed in death by friendly hands. Nor have these only been benefited; for thousands upon thousands of relatives and friends have been relieved from dreadful anxiety, by the state thus taking charge of those beloved ones for whom they could do nothing.

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"It is agreeable to indulge in complacent retrospect of past efforts and acknowledged excellence. But it is a duty to be mindful of faults and shortcomings. It must not be admitted that anything which has been done in the past, or any success which has been obtained, can warrant a moment's pause in that long career of improvement which is clearly open before this Hospital. That career, indeed, must be pursued with unwonted zeal and energy, if the character once claimed for it, of being a model institution, can be regained and deserved.

"This Hospital was once indeed a model one, in form and in administration, and Commissioners came up hither from other states to study it, and went home to copy it. Our state felt a reasonable pride in the institution, and that in that remarkable and eminent man who so long ministered it; and she indulged in not a little self-gratulation from year to year. It seemed to be thought that, as we had begun with the country's highest achievement, we had also arrived at the ultimatum of the world's possible progress. But, while indulging in these pleasant remembrances of the past, and resting on our laurels, great improvements were made elsewhere; other hospitals were built on better models; other and better principles of administration were adopted, until now we find ourselves behind the rest of the world in respect to the facilities and the means which we give to those who have the care of our insane.

"But when, besides the lack of these architectural advantages, a hospital is overcrowded with patients; when it is obliged to huddle together over five hundred and fifty persons in apartments constructed for only three hundred and twenty-seven, and constructed, too, when less space was thought to be requisite than is now found to be essential; when, moreover, the patients, instead of being partly drawn, according to the original purpose, from an intelligent and educated yeomanry, are drawn mainly from a class which has no refinement, no culture, and not much civilization even,—that hospital must certainly degenerate. Its degeneracy will be the more certain and the more striking, if a short-sighted economy tempts its managers to adopt the readiest, instead of the wisest, methods of treatment, and to choose the cheapest, instead of the best, system of administration.

"The average number of patients during the year, and during many years, has been enormous. It far exceeds that for which the Hospital has accommodations. It constitutes a crowd. It embarrasses the administration. It lowers the standard of health. It diminishes the comfort and increases the excitement of patients, and the perplexities of attendants. It makes the whole household uneasy. It leads to, and perhaps justifies, the resort to objectionable methods of government, and to restraints which are injurious. It is a prolific source of other evils, too numerous to mention. It ought to be diminished, and kept down."

The Hospital at Worcester, as is the case in many of the public institutions for the insane in the northern states bordering upon the Atlantic, is gradually filling up with incurable insane of foreign birth. Although not prepared to indorse in full the views advanced upon this subject, we must admit that the difference in moral and intellectual

grade between the generality of the pauper insane of foreign and native birth is strikingly greater than between the indigent and the wealthier classes in our own country; and while the latter can be treated together without inconvenience, the commingling, in the same institution, of insane emigrants and those of native birth is, we believe, always attended with more or less embarrassment.

The remarks appended in regard to insane criminals are correct, and the impropriety of providing for them in public asylums is now very generally admitted.

"Of the two hundred and ninety-nine patients admitted during the year, one hundred and sixteen were foreigners, of whom ninety-four were Irish, and all paupers.

"The Trustees would not mention this fact, in the present state of the times, or they would mention it only to commend the laudable readiness of Massachusetts to care for the strangers within her gates, were it not an important one in view of the classification of patients, which they think it essential for every hospital to have the means of making, but which ours has not. It has been stated to the Legislature before, and it should be repeated, that the Hospital at Worcester is fast becoming a hospital for foreigners, and that its doors are becoming practically closed against that class of persons who for many years enjoyed its advantages,—to wit, the middling class of native population—the intelligent yeomanry of Massachusetts, who can afford to pay the cost of their board, and will not ask for charity. The proportion of Irish patients to the whole number was ten per cent. in 1844, but over thirty-one per cent. in 1854.

"The state should adopt as her children all who congregate upon her shores. She should make abundant provision for all, of whatever nation, kindred, tongue, or color, who, having found a home within her borders, do there become insane; but that provision, while as favorable as possible to their cure, should be suitable to their condition, their wants, and their capacity for enjoyment. It should be made, too, in such manner as not to cut off any class of her own children, who become insane, from sharing her maternal care and bounty.

"It is important and pertinent to the present subject, to bear in mind, that insanity does not change the nature of men and women,—that it does not always blunt their sensibilities, or lessen their prejudices; but that, on the contrary, it often intensifies them. Among the insane of this state are wives and daughters, widows and orphans, of farmers, mechanics, ministers, schoolmasters, and the like. These women were taught in our public schools, trained up in our proverbially neat and orderly households, and accustomed to cultivated society; and, however ready and willing they might have been, when sane, to help the poor, and elevate the humble, of whatever race or color, they would have shrunk most sensitively from living next door even to a wretched hovel, and from intimate association with those who are accustomed to, and satisfied with, filthy habitations and filthier habits. Now, they do not lose their sensibilities by becoming insane, and they ought not to have them wounded by being herded together in the same apartment with

persons whose manners offend and shock them. Besides, such associations do not promote the good of any patient, but may retard, and perhaps prevent, the cure of some.

"There is yet another class, who have, hitherto, been mingled indiscriminately with the inmates of our hospitals, but for some, at least, of whom the undersigned think that express and separate provision should be made, either within or without the common edifice,—to wit, criminal lunatics—those who have committed grave offences, but have been exempted from punishment by the courts on the ground of insanity; and those who, becoming insane while undergoing sentence, are transferred from the prisons to the hospitals.

"The presence of any of this class is an evil; and if the number should be much increased, it would be a very grave one. The hospital is a place of refuge for the unfortunate: to make it a place of imprisonment for criminals, is to throw painful associations about it. Nor is the objection merely a moral one. The presence of criminals, who are often desperate men, creates the necessity for greater means of restraint and security than would be required with ordinary patients, and it converts some part, at least, of the hospital into a prison. The criminal should be treated with care and kindness, but not at the expense of the well-being or the feelings of the innocent insane, or their families.

"Now, the presence of these two classes, in such large and increasing numbers, lowers the state hospitals in public estimation; and the consequence is, already, that they are less used by those who, though they cannot well afford to pay a high price, will seek the best accommodations for their insane friends."

Without assenting to all advanced, we copy the paragraph on mechanical restraint and seclusion, not that anything new is offered upon the subject, but because, as the views of non-professional men—yet of those practically acquainted with hospital management,—it may, perhaps, have more influence with boards of managers, legislators, and lunacy commissions than a medical essay.

"The sight of scores of men and women confined in cells, dignified by the name of strong rooms, or restrained in the use of their limbs by mechanical contrivances, has long constituted the most melancholy feature of this Hospital. In the mind of the visitor who doubted the necessity of this rude method of treatment, and who suspected that its adoption was the result of a parsimonious selection of the cheapest rather than the best method, the melancholy was not unmingled with sterner feeling.

"There is about the insane a helpless dependence that is more touching even than that of woman; so that the unnecessary abridgment of their personal freedom, or the needless diminution of their remaining means of enjoyment, is a wrong which, if done with intent, or through unworthy motives, should meet with indignant reprobation. It has been done in this Hospital, partly through a supposed necessity, and partly in consequence of the crowd of patients forced into it. It is still done in other public institutions where the insane are confined, and the matter, therefore, should, in every possible way, be brought before

the public; and appeals should be made to the intellect and the conscience of the people, until the wrong ceases.

"The assertion, that public opinion in New England is less enlightened than that of Old England with regard to the treatment of the insane, may seem strange; but, nevertheless, it is true. It is true, moreover, that here, in Massachusetts, practices are tolerated in some institutions* where the insane are kept, which would there be indictable at common law, as will be shown presently.

"There are in the Worcester Hospital forty-eight 'strong rooms,' or rather cells. They are built of stone or brick, precisely like prison cells, with grated doors and windows, apertures for putting in food, taking out vessels, &c. They are so contrived that they can be easily warmed, and cleansed from filth that offends the eye, but in all other respects they are unfit abodes for human beings. The older ones are perfectly detestable. Opened to the more enlightened moral sense of this day, they seem like the relics of a comparatively barbarous age. Well might the Trustees, in the Report of last year, ask, 'How is it possible that the furious, the violent, the indecent should ever be restored while occupying apartments unfit for the abodes of dumb beasts?' They might have added, that any sane man, unless an eminent non-resistant, would become 'furious and violent' by being placed therein.

"Even those cells, constructed at so great cost within a few years, are not fit habitations for the worst maniac, because they needlessly aggravate his malady and his misery. They, too, are stone cells, with iron doors and grated windows.

"These cells have been almost continually in use since they were built; and when the hospital was as crowded as it sometimes has been, their use has, doubtless, seemed absolutely necessary.

* * * * *

"Now, it can be shown that neither 'seclusion' nor 'restraint' of insane persons is necessary, saving in rare and exceptional cases, and then only for short periods of time and in ordinary rooms; first, by general reasoning; second, by experience in other places; third, by experience here at home within the last year.

"First, as to the general reasoning.—'Seclusion' of an insane person is a dainty word for expressing his imprisonment in a cell. Restraint is a dainty substitute for fettering his hands, or feet, or both, the fetters being of leather instead of iron.

"Insanity, as was remarked before, deranges, but does not alter, the nature of men. It often merely intensifies certain modes of mental action. It is especially apt to intensify the lower and peculiarly selfish propensities. In dealing with insane emotions and passions, we have often to deal with sane ones merely raised to a higher power.

"Human nature continues to pervade the motives, though the actions be ever so extravagant; as gravity pervades particles of matter that may be forced upwards or sideways by disturbing forces. We are to consider that opposition provokes to anger, and that the soft answer turns away the wrath of insane as well as of sane men. We are to consider the principle, that whatever directly represses the individuality, whatever restrains the personal liberty, especially whatever restrains the

* "There are twenty-three insane persons confined in prisons in Massachusetts, and one hundred and fifty-two under charge of jailors."

freedom of motion and locomotion, instantly excite opposition, temper, and rebellion. This is a sort of oppression of individual right and freedom which the most dull or deranged intellect can feel, and which every one instinctively resists.

* * * * *

"Now, the natural supposition is, that people are not utterly changed in these respects by insanity. So long as the senses are unimpaired, and the perceptive faculties, or any of them, are active,—so long as any reason remains (and its light is seldom entirely quenched),—so long must men be more or less subject to the ordinary laws of humanity.

"Secondly.—Abundant recent experience confirms the inference that would be drawn from *a priori* reasoning, and proves that forcible restraint of insane persons usually does more harm than good, and is very seldom necessary. Indeed, the great modern reformation in the treatment of the insane is founded upon this idea.

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"In many American hospitals the principle of 'non-restraint' has been acted upon wisely, though without that attachment to a theory which leads some to forbid a resort to any mechanical restraint or forcible seclusion, even in those rare but not unknown cases which are manifestly benefited by their prudent use.

"The Trustees have long regretted that circumstances did not permit the adoption of this reform as fully at Worcester as in other American hospitals.

"A committee of the Board last year visited nine hospitals out of New England, and there found that, taking the whole number of patients, only one in three hundred was confined in a strong room, while at Worcester more than ten times that proportion of patients were so confined. There were less than six hundred patients; and yet the forty-eight strong rooms were almost continually used for the forcible seclusion of men and women, many of whom were raving, and whose wretchedness was, doubtless, increased by their imprisonment and restraint.

"The records of the Trustees will show how often and how strongly they have denounced these rooms as unfit places of habitation. But there was always a crowd of patients within the Hospital, and more pressing for admission. Those in charge deemed it necessary to use these rooms. Still, therefore, men and women were thrust into them, and made more furious by the confinement; and still many others were restrained by straps and various mechanical contrivances, who might have had freedom of motion, and the use of their limbs, if sufficient space and sufficient means of medical and moral treatment had been at command, and if there had been fuller faith in the efficacy of milder measures. The principal evil, and that which seemed to justify the use of so much seclusion and restraint, was the crowd of patients. Of this evil, the Trustees and the Superintendent have complained, as often and as loudly as seemed becoming and proper to do.

* * * * *

"Thirdly.—An opportunity has been furnished, during the last year, of showing here at home, by actual experiment, and beyond all possibility of doubt or cavil, that the imprisonment and restraint of insane persons, as practised at Worcester for so many years, was not necessary for

their proper care and safe keeping. During the months of January, February, and March, there had been sixty-six patients confined in the 'strong rooms,' twenty-one of them during the whole time, thirty-three nearly half the time, the others during various periods from a day to a month.

"In April, two hundred and ten patients were removed to the new hospital at Taunton. The patients selected were those whose homes were in the neighborhood of Taunton, and not those who were most troublesome. By reason of one of those curious circumstances which, if unnoticed, defeat statistical calculations, it so happened that only a few of them were of that violent class whom it had been deemed necessary to confine at Worcester. Still, however, the change in their condition, and consequently in their conduct, after arriving at Taunton, and enjoying the superior advantages of the new hospital, was most striking and most gratifying. Two hundred and two out of the two hundred and ten patients enjoyed the full liberty of the hospital, and the free use of their limbs, from the moment of their arrival. Not a single one was confined in a 'strong room.' Nine were occasionally restrained, by being shut up in their ordinary chambers, or wore the camisole, or leathern straps, a few days at a time. One unfortunate woman only had to have her hands confined most of the time, though even she is now free. Among the patients transferred were three who had been confined in strong rooms during the whole of the three last months passed in Worcester, and six who had been confined a third of the time. Now, *every one* of these men were left perfectly free, and have done no harm to themselves or others.

"These facts, added to that of the confinement of so many lunatics innocent of crime, prove the truth of what was said above, that Massachusetts has been and is treating lunatics in a manner that would be indictable at common law in England.

"The Trustees, anxious to prevent any relapse into the old system, under any pressure of a crowd, or any supposed necessity, and aware, moreover, of the temptation which the existence of 'strong rooms' offers to attendants to get rid of the trouble of watching patients, by confining them under bar and bolt, have directed the demolition of most of these offensive cells, and the construction of comfortable sitting-rooms in their place. They trust that their successors will persevere in the work, and that, in future, no seclusion and no mechanical restraint will be used here, for the treatment of the insane, except in those rare cases where solitude is required, or where the patient must be restrained, either by men's hands or by instruments, and in which the latter is the least objectionable."

It will be perceived that the Trustees have not contented themselves with a simple recognizance of the evils which have fettered the advancing steps of the institution, but have resolutely set to work to remove them. They have improved the structural arrangement of the house, made it more cheerful, broken up the monotony of the wards, provided new parlors, increased the facilities for amusement and occupation, and are still prosecuting with vigor the work of improvement.

It is not difficult to conceive the unpleasantness of a task like this, and how naturally a board of management would shrink from a duty so painful, yet most ably have the Trustees at Worcester met the obligations imposed upon them. The important results of their zeal and earnestness we cannot compute here, but might remark that one effect was the appointment of the Commission to consider the subject of lunacy and idiocy in Massachusetts, whose unsurpassed Report, with which our readers are familiar, contains a most valuable collection of minute, thorough, and reliable information, and has conclusively established some most important principles which should form the policy of a state in providing for its insane.

From the Report of the Superintendent, Dr. George Chandler, we extract the following statistics :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining, Dec. 1st, 1853	266	254	520
Admitted during the year	125	174	299
	—	—	—
Whole number treated	391	428	819
Discharged during the year	198	240	438
	—	—	—
Remaining, Nov. 30th, 1854	193	188	381

Of those discharged there were,—

Recovered	45	77	122
Improved	21	32	53
Incurable, &c.	117	112	229
Died	15	19	34
	—	—	—
	198	240	438

The total number of discharges (438) includes one hundred and five of each sex, who were, by order of the Governor, removed in April to the new state hospital at Taunton.

The statistical tables and accompanying inferences and remarks are complete and interesting. The year has been one of general health and prosperity. No epidemic has occasioned unusual mortality in the hospital, and no fatal accident has broken the usual quiet of the household.

VI. Report of the Trustees and Superintendent of the Butler Hospital for the Insane, presented to the Corporation, at their Annual Meeting, January 24th, 1855. Providence, R. I., 1855.

The operations of this institution during the past year, numerically expressed, are as follows :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining, Dec. 31st, 1854	63	73	136
Admitted during the year.....	31	49	80
Whole number treated	94	122	216
Discharged during the year	40	45	85
Remaining, Dec. 31st, 1855	54	77	131

Average population, 136.

Of those discharged there were,—

Recovered	40
Improved	20
Unimproved	6
Died	19
	85

The annual reports of Dr. Ray are more than ordinarily interesting and valuable. His known ability as a writer, his great experience and long official connection, with an excellently conducted institution, peculiarly qualify him for the discussion of all practical points relating to the treatment of insanity.

In the present Report, of equal interest with its predecessors, after the usual statistics, is first considered some of the more important advantages possessed by hospitals in the restoration of the insane.

"Insanity implies the existence of bodily derangement, and therefore is a suitable object of medical treatment, which, of course, would be more skillfully applied by men who were devoting their whole time and attention to this affection, than by those who observe it only on a very limited scale. But it also implies derangement of the ideas, hallucination of the senses, perversion of the moral sentiments, all which, though the result of physical disorder, are, so far as their outward manifestations are concerned, in some degree, under the control of others, and by such control—in a way not very well understood—the morbid process may be arrested. Now, it is the moral management prevalent in the hospitals of our own time, which so strongly distinguishes them from those of any former time, and determines, in a great measure, the amount of good which they accomplish. Until within a comparatively recent period, insanity was treated by medical men very much like other diseases. Regarding it only in its physical aspect, they considered their duty as finished when they had exhausted the kind of medication supposed to be most efficacious for the purpose. But in an age of active philanthropy and of great practical sagacity, the idea was not long in making its appearance, that something more is necessary to ensure the highest success, even to the medical treatment. The fact was finally recognized that so long as the patient is allowed to follow the bent of his own will, he is only fostering and strengthening the morbid process going on in the brain; and it also became obvious that ordinary nurses in private families or in general hospitals are incompetent to exercise the kind of control which the case required. Seldom seeing the dis-

ease, they have little opportunity of acquiring skill in the practice of their duty; and besides, even if it were otherwise, it could not be expected that persons of their capacity and culture could ever do more than follow, with more or less fidelity, the general directions of others. These directions the medical attendant could not furnish, because he knew comparatively little of the disease himself, and had given no special attention to the operations of the mind, whether sane or insane. Visiting his patient at infrequent intervals, he could not provide for his frequently changing moods, nor be sure that his views were faithfully executed. Neither would the arrangements of an ordinary household admit of that kind of restriction which the insane usually require, and the only alternative was, either an unlimited indulgence of the patient in his caprices, or a degree of coercion and confinement which irritated his spirit and injured his health. Under the pressure of these inconveniences and hindrances, the idea began to prevail that the insane could be best managed in establishments devoted exclusively to their care. It was obvious that persons engaged in their service would become familiar with the ways of the insane, and thereby learn a thousand arts of management, and acquire a degree of skill in the performance of their duties, quite unknown to others. The medical man, too, concentrating his attention upon a single disease, and devoting all his time to the little community around him, would obtain an amount of practical information which no other source can supply. He would also impart to the general management of an establishment a kind of efficiency which can only spring from continuous and systematic effort conducted upon a large scale. The latter result was rendered probable by the example of general hospitals, where congregations of similar cases afford unusual means for studying their nature and obtaining the highest possible degree of skill in their treatment. The world has not been disappointed. The beneficial results expected from special hospitals for the insane have been abundantly experienced, and the benevolence of the age has been largely engaged in establishing them, until they have become firmly rooted in the necessities and affections of every Christian community."

The premature removal of patients, whose disease seems about yielding to curative effort, is certainly a most "disheartening experience in our calling;" still the circumstances sometimes attending the removal of the "incurable," are but little less painful. When the result of the penuriousness of relatives we may indeed be shocked by this "balancing of reason, God's greatest gift to man, with a paltry sum of money;" but we can find an alleviating thought in the fact, that their friends, if possessed of the will, have it in their power to provide a measure, at least, of personal comfort. But when those poor, hapless ones, in double helplessness,—bereft of reason, and cast by poverty upon the hands of the public,—become the victims of a narrow-minded policy, and some heartless official's idea of economy, we may well question the refinement and philanthropy whereof our country boasts. To show the magnitude of this evil, Dr. Ray adduces proof that in the State

of Rhode Island there were, in 1851, *eighty-six* insane persons in the poor houses! and yet the State of New York, with all her pride and wealth, throws open the same wide gateway to wrong and abuse, and, at this moment, in her poor-houses and jails are over *nine hundred* insane poor, *three hundred* of whom, according to the written statement of public officers, are in *cells and mechanical restraint* from one *year's end to another*.

In this connection Dr. Ray remarks:

"If friends and relatives may claim the right of consulting their own caprices rather than the good of the patient, it does not follow that municipal bodies are entitled to the same privilege in their disposal of the insane who, in the providence of God, have fallen to their charge. In consulting economy they have not the moral right to withhold from them a single available comfort that would conduce to their health and happiness. The wretchedness of a mind diseased is bad enough, without the additional ingredient of cold, or nakedness, or contumely. It is now a well-settled fact that the modern hospital for the insane is the most successful instrumentality yet devised for ministering to the necessities and comforts of the incurably insane. It is equally well-settled among those who consider the matter unbiassed by improper motives, that neither the poor-house, nor the family of the overseer of the poor, nor those indescribable makeshifts—neither strictly poor-house nor hospital, but with all the faults of one and none of the merits of the other—which municipal economy has sometimes devised for satisfying the claims of humanity, ought to be regarded as suitable receptacles for the insane poor. The poor-house is an institution for relieving the bodily necessities of the poor,—for supplying them with food, clothing, and lodging. It cannot, and it never was intended it should, render the attentions necessary for maintaining the personal comfort of insane persons, still less to minister to a mind diseased with any of those appliances which are the result of modern science and philanthropy. These are the functions of a very different institution, created expressly for the purpose, endowed in a more generous manner, and regarded with peculiar interest by all who would alleviate suffering, and restore the shattered intellect to its original integrity. Indeed, this whole benevolent enterprise of establishing hospitals for the insane, which so honorably distinguishes the present from every previous century, is founded upon the generally recognized fact, that the insane cannot receive in poor-houses the attentions necessary for promoting their restoration or comfort. Although I would not undertake to set limits to the power of self-deception, for often it exceeds every assignable limit; yet it is hard to conceive how any tolerably intelligent person can believe that, with a few exceptions, the pauper insane are well enough where they are—in the poor-houses of their respective towns. It is unnecessary to inquire very minutely how they are managed, for though it might be shown that in occasional instances they have suffered no positive harm, or neglect, yet the general principle established by the testimony of experience and our knowledge of the tendencies of human nature would be unaffected."

Other subjects of interest are introduced and ably considered, which we would be pleased to notice, did our limits permit.

VII. *The Thirty-first Annual Report of the Officers of the Retreat for the Insane at Hartford, Conn. April, 1855. Hartford, 1855.*

This institution continues under the experienced care of Dr. Butler. The history of the past year, as presented in the above Reports, has been a very pleasant one. The general health of the inmates has been good; and many important improvements have been made, essentially increasing the efficiency and cheerfulness of the institution. The following abstract exhibits the results of the year:

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining, March 31st, 1854.....	89	97	186
Admitted during the year.....	69	100	169
Whole number treated.....	158	197	355
Discharged during the year.....	73	89	162
Remaining, March 31st, 1855	85	108	193

Average population, 185.

Of those discharged there were,—

Recovered	26	47	73
Improved	20	18	38
Not improved	18	16	34
Died	9	8	17
	73	89	162

Of the deaths, two were from diarrhœa, two from consumption, seven from exhaustion and general debility, one from old age, one from apoplexy, two from paralysis, one from general paralysis, and one from disease of the stomach.

The statistical tables accompanying Dr. Butler's Report are very complete, and exhibit, in their compilation, great care. The first is a general table, embracing the ordinary statistics of the institution since its opening in 1824, from which it appears that the whole number discharged has been two thousand eight hundred and four, more than one half of whom (1404) had recovered. Then follow tables exhibiting the number of admissions and discharges for each month, age at the dates of disease and admission, sex, occupation, and civil condition, supposed cause of insanity, and the causes of death. From Table IV we deduce the following statement, which exhibits the number of the attack in each case admitted since March 31st, 1845 :

	M.	F.	TOTAL.		M.	F.	TOTAL.
First attack	355	487	842	Seventh attack	2	5	7
Second "	96	148	244	Eighth "	1	1	2
Third "	27	39	66	Ninth "		2	2
Fourth "	18	23	41	Several	44	42	86
Fifth "	9	9	18	Unknown	29	24	53
Sixth "	5	6	11	Total	586	786	1372

Of the two thousand and four patients received into the institution, one thousand, eight hundred and ninety-seven were first admissions, two hundred and sixty-two were admitted for the second time, sixty-three for the third, twenty-six for the fourth, ten for the fifth, four for the sixth, and for the seventh and ninth, each one. Facts like these are interesting and valuable, and we would like to see them embodied in every report.

ARTICLE VII.

REVIEW.

A Monograph on Mental Unsoundness. By Francis Wharton. 8vo. pp. 228. Phila., 1855.

This is the first portion of a general treatise on Medical Jurisprudence, about to be published by Mr. Wharton, in connection with Dr. Stillé, and is issued in this shape for private circulation merely. It is another indication of the increasing attention which, during the last twenty years, has been given to this subject, and which is also strikingly manifested in the contrast between the meagre chapter devoted to it in the books on medical jurisprudence previous to that period, and the many copious works, embodying the results of modern observation, that we now possess. The author is already known to the medical and legal professions by a work on WOUNDS, and his reputation is well sustained in this. It treats of every point usually embraced in a work of this kind, and with a fullness of detail that renders it particularly valuable as a book of reference. Indeed, the only fault we are disposed to find with it is, that this purpose has been kept too much in view; for, amid the profusion of citations and quotations with which every point is illustrated, the reader often fails of obtaining a clew to what is really the truth. In his anxiety to present the state of opinion on the various questions which he is obliged to consider, he neglects to give due pro-

minence to his own. When thus embarrassed by the discrepant and conflicting doctrines which are summoned from every quarter, the student often looks in vain for that help which the ample attainments and matured judgment of the author would have enabled him to offer. In thus abstaining from the judicial function of the author, he has considerably limited the usefulness of his work; because, for practical purposes, such books are resorted to, not only for the raw material of knowledge, but for the general results to which it has led a cautious, well-trained, and philosophical mind.

In his desire to flood his subject with light from every source, Mr. Wharton has not always used a proper discrimination. The views of authors are marshaled forth side by side, presenting very unequal claims to authority. A passage from Conolly, or Esquirol, on one page, is balanced by another from such writers as the Rev. John Barlow; and, for anything the reader is told to the contrary, the man who sits in his library and speculates about insanity is entitled to equal confidence with him who has spent the best years of his life in close communion with the insane. This way of quoting without regard to perspective, if we may so express it, is calculated to mislead the student, and baffle the practitioner in search of practical aid. We cannot help thinking, therefore, that Mr. Wharton would have rendered his work no less valuable, and less bulky, perhaps, had he selected exclusively from writers whose authority has been universally recognized.

Still, after making every abatement required, the work is, unquestionably, a valuable contribution to the mingled science of medical jurisprudence. The amount of labor which has been expended in searching for adjudicated cases, and in consulting the latest French and German publications, has seldom been equaled, and its results can be found nowhere else.

We cannot dismiss this work without adverting for a moment to some remarks on the 36th page, occasioned, it seems, by the following passage from Dr. Ray's book on the Medical Jurisprudence of Insanity—a book which he introduces with a tribute of praise that might satisfy any reasonable degree of vanity: "Judging from the few cases that have been reported, the course of practice of the English criminal courts, has been in strict conformity with the principles laid down by Hale." Thereupon Mr. Wharton writes as follows:

"The 'principles laid down by Hale' are those which that humane judge and laborious text-writer—who prided himself on having never, on speculations of his own, advanced an opinion or pronounced a judgment—had drawn from the medical authorities of that day. These principles have since then been greatly modified, both by legal and

medical writers; and it is to be regretted that either class, in reviewing the matter, should confine themselves to the earlier authorities, and then declare that the old law continues unaltered, 'judging from the few cases that have been reported.' The fact is, that, both in this country and in England, the cases 'reported,' on the subject are not few but numerous; and if they had been examined in detail, it would have been found that they kept pace, with almost equal step, with the advance of medical science. How far the latter has kept pace with them may be estimated from the fact that Dr. Ray—the author of the fullest and most recent work on this vexed subject—has even in his edition of 1853, cited scarcely a single volume of the thousands in which the authorized reports of the American courts are published. It is true that several American cases are noticed, and delicate shades of opinion declared to have been settled by them; but they are cited from the 'notes of counsel,' from 'Niles's Register,' from the 'Dollar Newspaper,' and from 'Zion's Herald.'"

The questions on which we propose to join issue with our author seem to be these, viz., Do the principles laid down by Hale govern the decisions of English and American courts at the present time; or, in the words already used, are the latter in strict conformity with the former? Are the reported cases on the subject few or numerous? Has Dr. Ray failed to present the actual state of the law of insanity in consequence of not consulting the authorized reports?

In the first place, let us see what this principle of Lord Hale really is. "There is a partial insanity," says he, "and a total insanity. Some persons that have a competent use of reason, in respect of some subjects, are yet under a particular dementia, in respect of some particular discourses, subjects, or applications; or else it is partial in respect of degrees; and this is the condition of very many, especially melancholy persons, who, for the most part, discover their defect in excessive fears and griefs, and yet are not wholly destitute of the use of reason; and this partial insanity seems not to excuse them, in the committing of any offense, for its matter capital; for, doubtless, most persons that are felons of themselves and others, are under a degree of partial insanity when they commit these offenses. It is very difficult to define the invisible line that defines perfect and partial insanity; but it must rest upon circumstances duly to be weighed and considered both by judge and jury." In short, partial insanity, according to this eminent jurist, is not a valid excuse for crime. And is not this the doctrine of modern times? Has it not always been the well-recognized rule of English and American courts, from Lord Hale's day down to our

own? Does not the court invariably say to the jury, virtually, in order to acquit the prisoner on the ground of insanity,—You must be satisfied, not only that he is insane, but so insane as not to know this, that, or the other? Can Mr. Wharton refer to a single case where the jury were directed to acquit the prisoner, if proved to be insane, without regard to the kind or gravity of the disease? Even where the Legislature has made insanity, without stint or qualification, a sufficient excuse for crime, the courts continue to instruct the jury in conformity with the common law. In New York the statute says that “no act done in a state of insanity can be punished as an offense;” and yet, in the celebrated case of Freeman, Chief-Justice Beardsley declared that the statute was “not intended to abrogate or qualify the common rule,” because a literal interpretation of the statute “would be a mighty change in the law.” In the trial of Kleim, too, Judge Edmonds made a similar ruling. Does this look like keeping pace with medical science? It certainly is not keeping pace with the Legislature. Is the practice any better in England? Probably no principle is more firmly settled in the criminal law of that country than this,—that partial insanity is not necessarily an excuse for crime. True, Lord Hale’s rule for determining whether the disease has gone so far as to render the person irresponsible—viz., if he have “ordinarily as great understanding as ordinarily a child of fourteen years hath,” he may be guilty—has given way to various other rules laid down at different times. That these later rules indicate any advance in mental or medical knowledge, is a point, however, that we are not ready to concede. To one much accustomed to observe the operations of the insane mind, the idea of measuring its responsibility by its knowledge of right and wrong, of the lawfulness or unlawfulness of this or that act, is as preposterous as Hale’s method of getting at the same result by comparing it to a child’s mind. They are equally irrelevant to the purpose, and, instead of being a safe guide in the decision of particular cases, are likely to lead to much injustice. The best rule of this kind ever adopted—that of delusion in Hadfield’s case, which really did indicate an advance in medical or psychological science—was never put forth on any subsequent occasion, in England, without essential qualification. Notwithstanding that it had been illustrated and enforced in one of the ablest efforts ever made in the Court of King’s Bench, the old rules continued to prevail. But there can be no question on this point. The English judges, in making an authoritative exposition of the law, on the occasion of the McNaughton trial, declared that delusion is not a sufficient excuse, if the prisoner knows right from wrong, &c.—applying the old tests. And as if this were not sufficiently ignoring the lights of mod-

ern science, they annexed an additional qualification, never before heard of in an English court, viz., that under no circumstances would delusion be a defense beyond a certain point. If the prisoner did no more than he might lawfully have done, had the delusion been true, then he would be entitled to be an acquittal; otherwise, not. "For example," they say, "if, under the influence of delusion, he supposes another man to be in the act of attempting to take away his life, and he kills that man, as he supposes, in self-defense, he would be exempt from punishment. If his delusion was, that the deceased had inflicted a serious injury to his character and fortune, and he killed him in revenge for such supposed injury, he would be liable to punishment." We need not inform Mr. Wharton that this doctrine has been endorsed by American courts, in what are regarded as "leading cases;" and we cannot believe that, on mature consideration, he will say that this is "keeping pace, with almost equal step, with the advance of medical science."

We admit that the plea of insanity has become more effective than it once was,—that many are now acquitted who would have been convicted in Lord Hale's time. This is indicative of progress in humanity and general intelligence on the part of juries, but certainly not of courts whose rules of law have been disregarded, in order that the prisoner might be acquitted. Nothing can show more clearly the change which has come over the respective functions of the court and jury during the last half-century. Once the jury were content to abide by the metaphysical tests propounded by the judge. Now, on the contrary, they are governed by the evidence, by the experts, and in some degree, no doubt, by their ignorance and prejudices. If the insanity is pretty clearly manifested, the prisoner is usually acquitted, without the slightest reference to the question whether he knew that what he was doing was right or wrong, lawful or unlawful, or properly proportioned to the offense, supposing it to be real. On the other hand, if it lies beneath the surface, and especially if the circumstances are calculated to excite vindictive feeling, then the law is supposed to require a victim. Hence the significance of Mr. Taylor's remark respecting the recent cases: "Either some individuals," he says, "are most improperly acquitted on the plea of insanity, or others are most unjustly executed."

Even in civil cases, we are not quite sure that the common law has kept pace with the advance of medical science. For instance, it had always been considered a well-settled principle, that the insane are incompetent to testify; but, quite recently, a person was convicted of manslaughter, in the Central Criminal Court of London, chiefly on the

testimony of a man who believed that he had within him twenty thousand spirits, who came from various persons,—some from the Queen,—and told him various things, speaking to him incessantly and at that moment. It was the opinion of the full bench that this man was a competent witness.* Mr. Wharton will not contend, surely, that this monstrous decision, which makes the lives and reputation of men depend on the delusions of a maniac, is an indication of progress.

We have no wish to decry the common law, nor those who administer it. With all its deficiencies, it has always been to the Anglo-Saxon race a palladium of safety, standing serenely against the encroachments of power and wrong, whether in the sunshine of peace or the storms of revolution. But we claim for it more than it is fairly entitled to, when we say that, on any subject, it has always reflected the light of science as fast as it was elicited. History teaches plainly enough that this must first be spread abroad, and become the common property of men, before it can illumine the dark corners of the law. Indeed, with its highly conservative tendencies, it is very natural that it should be so. Apart from the common disposition of men, there is an additional reason for the fact in question, as it regards England, in the all-pervading apprehension of danger from any mitigation of the criminal code. By no class of men has every attempt to mitigate the penal consequences of crime been more pertinaciously resisted than by the lawyers and judges. Hence the common impression among these functionaries, that to allow a man to plead insanity in defense of crime, whose discourse is mostly rational, and who transacts business correctly, is to hold out an actual inducement to crime.

The other questions, being chiefly personal, need not detain us long. Mr. Wharton declares that the cases reported on this subject are not few, but numerous. These are relative terms, and therefore not capable of being very exactly estimated without some standard of comparison. This, unfortunately, he has not furnished; but, he says, "of the thousands in which the authorized reports of the American courts are published," Dr. Ray has "cited scarcely a single volume;" implying, of course, that many more could have been cited, had pains been taken to find them. On a point like this, simply numerical, we certainly had a right to expect that Mr. W. himself would be strictly exact. We have taken the trouble to count these citations, and find that they amount to just fifteen—an insignificant number, certainly, when compared with thousands. But even this disproportion vanishes on a close inspection. Mr. W. does not say that in thousands of volumes of the

* *Regina v. Hill.*—*Am. Jour. Insanity.* vol. vii, p. 336.

authorized reports there may be found some decision on the subject of insanity, as the incautious reader might suppose, but simply that we have cited scarcely one of these thousands. The proper question is, How large a proportion of the authorized American reports containing decisions respecting the criminal law of insanity, have we cited? In order to answer this question, it would seem to be necessary to know the whole number; and this fact, of course, is not within our reach. We may obtain some approximation to it by observing how many Mr. Wharton himself has cited; for a well-read lawyer and writer like him, whose works make a library of themselves, would not be likely to overlook a case of any importance. According to our reckoning, they amount to just twenty-seven. We may, in a few of the citations, have mistaken American for English reports, and *vice versa*, but this number is not far from correct; so that, after all, out of "the thousands in which the authorized reports of the American courts are published," Mr. Wharton himself has cited only twenty-seven. This alone would seem to be sufficient authority for our statement, that but few of the cases in question have been reported. In fact, considering the nature of these reports, it could not well be otherwise. They are meant to be the recorded opinions of the full bench on issues that have been deliberately made and argued before it. The rulings of a judge in a case at *nisi prius* are seldom preserved in the official reports. As Mr. Wharton himself says, in the latter part of the note which has called out these remarks, "What a judge tells a jury is meant for a particular issue," and serves no further purpose. In itself it can have no general application, unless formally affirmed by the bench, and then it is recorded. Occasionally, under peculiar circumstances, the decision of a judge in a criminal case has been embraced in the official reports, and is entitled to all the authority which its intrinsic merits deserve. The charge of Chief-Justice Shaw, of Massachusetts, in "Commonwealth against Rogers," in the 7th volume of Metcalf, and that of Chief-Justice Hornblower, of New Jersey, in "State against Spencer," 1st of Zabriskie, are instances of this kind, where the importance of the subject, the high reputation of the judge, and the elaborate character of the judgment combined to claim for the latter all the publicity and permanence of the authorized reports. Occasionally, too, the interest of the trial has led to its publication in a separate form; and thus the charge of the judge is preserved, with the evidence, and the speeches of counsel. With these exceptions, trials in which the nicest questions of the law of insanity are discussed by counsel and court, go through their several stages, and leave no memorial behind them more

durable than the village newspaper which furnishes what it is pleased to call a report. How many cases of this kind has our author known, where exception has been taken to the ruling of the judge touching the common law of insanity, and an issue made up for the decision of the full bench?

Mr. Wharton thinks that citations from "notes of counsel," "Niles's Register," "Dollar Newspaper," and "Zion's Herald" are pardonable only when the cases are not to be found in the authorized reports, and even then they are to be received with great allowances. In this statement we fully agree with him, and, at the same time, we cannot see that our practice has not conformed to the general rule. We resorted to those sources of information for the simple reason that we could get what we wanted nowhere else; and it is not very obvious, how, for our purposes, we could have had any better. The last-named paper contained the fact, that, in a certain case of homicide, the drunkenness of the prisoner was regarded as an extenuating circumstance; and for such a fact the newspaper, unless there was reason to the contrary, might very properly be considered an adequate authority. The same reason may be given for the other newspaper citations. At that time there existed no official report of the trial, or of any part of it; but if, since then, any of them have been thus reported, we plead guilty to the charge of having overlooked them, though it is not intimated that our statements respecting the cases are at all incorrect. While saying this, however, we would not have it supposed that we think our author is needlessly scrupulous about his authorities. In scientific writings, no fact should be admitted without the authority on which it rests. Unless duly vouched for, facts are entitled to no attention whatever; and a book abounding in facts, picked up without the slightest reference to the source they came from, can possess no value whatever. Especially is this true as regards books of medical jurisprudence, on every line of which may depend the dearest interests of man.

I. R.

ARTICLE VIII.

LAW CASES BEARING UPON THE SUBJECT OF INSANITY.

Translated from the French.

HOMICIDE.—HALLUCINATIONS OF HEARING.—The Court of Assizes of Pas-de-Calais has recently condemned to twenty years' hard labor a monomaniac, who, under the influence of hallucinations of hearing, had been guilty of several attempts at homicide, and had finally committed a murder, without either motive or interest. The accused is an Englishman, named Piers, aged forty-four, and for twenty-five years a resident of St. Omer. His character had been irreproachable: he was kind and amiable, but always exceedingly sensitive. The witnesses spoke of him as a strange man, who allowed himself to become angry under the most trifling circumstances. He had long suffered from hallucinations. He often charged those around him with expressions they had never used; and one day, three men happening to meet and converse beneath his window, he at once fancied they were speaking prejudicially of himself, and fired two pistol shots at them, fortunately without effect. These men at the trial testified that they had not referred to him at all.

On the 17th of April last, the proprietor of the house in which he lived was talking in the yard with one of his neighbors, a merchant, like himself. They spoke of their own business, and were not even thinking of the unhappy man, when the latter, who was shut up in his room, where he could not hear, and could only see them through the glass in the window, fancied that they were speaking of him, and that they had grossly insulted him. He thought he heard his landlord distinctly say, "He is without his pantaloons; he is a *bougre*." At once resolving to be revenged, he had, like the greater portion of the insane, recourse to a ruse, and opening the window, politely asked him to come in. The latter, without suspicion, accepted the invitation, but had scarcely entered, when Piers spoke to him passionately, and demanded the grounds of the slander he had just uttered against him. While the unfortunate landlord was protesting against this charge, and denying that he had spoken a single word to his prejudice, Piers seized a pistol and wounded him mortally.

The neighbors, collecting together at the sound of fire-arms, were at first repulsed by the murderer, who kept them at bay with a gun, and forbade them to cross the threshold of his door; but a courageous citizen finally rushed upon and disarmed him. The murder was committed with perfect composure: this indifference did not forsake the accused for an instant, and he related before the Commissary of Police each circumstance as it had occurred, boasting of his deed, and evincing no regret at its commission. The same unconcern marked his conduct during the trial. He declared that he had heard distinctly the insult that was addressed to him, and that it would have been a dishonor to himself if he had not avenged it. No other excuse was offered, and he several times repeated that he had only done his duty in committing the murder.

"When you induced the unfortunate Berthier to enter your room," asked the President, "what was your intention?" "I had firmly resolved to kill him," replied Piers. "The act that you have committed is considered murder in all countries: is it not the greatest of crimes?" "The reflection," said he, "that was cast upon me was infinitely more serious than my deed: it was the grossest outrage that could be inflicted upon a man, and no one, without being dishonored, could allow him to live who had offered it." "Were you in similar circumstances, would you again act in the same way?" The accused unhesitatingly and with assurance replied, "Yes, sir."

The jury, as we have said, convicted him, but *under extenuating circumstances*. Three physicians, appointed to examine the prisoner, both before and during the trial, declared unanimously that this unhappy man was the puppet of his hallucinations,—that these errors in hearing had led him to the commission of a criminal act, the consequences of which he evidently did not appreciate; and, finally, that he should be placed in an asylum for the insane, and not be sent either to the scaffold or the galleys. But this failed to convince either the prosecuting attorney or the jurors, and the galleys will possess one monomaniac the more.

We have, in this Journal, so often treated the subject of homicidal monomania, that it would be superfluous to dwell longer on this case, which is, however, in more than one respect remarkable. The hallucinations of the accused were not doubted at the trial; testimony was too abundant; but the court was unwilling to allow that, at the moment of the commission of the crime, he had not free liberty of action. They attached particular importance to the artifice used to entice his unfortunate victim into his chamber. He declared that if he did not fire from the window to kill his victim immediately, it was only because

he was afraid of missing him; and the jury could not believe that a man capable of such reasoning was a lunatic, because it is generally believed that lunatics do not reason. We are acquainted with the sad results of this erroneous belief.

Artifice and dissimulation are, on the contrary, characteristic of monomania; and it sometimes requires great skill to fathom the intentions of an insane person. Professional men alone can recognize these; and unfortunately their advice is not always followed, even by those who consult them. We ought, however, to say, that magistrates have for some years past studied these important and delicate points, and the number of insane indicted is infinitely smaller than formerly. It is left for our *confrères*, consulted in these obscure cases, to complete their conviction, as much by their reserve, when they are not themselves sufficiently enlightened, as by the clearness of their conclusions when the accused do not seem responsible for their acts. Time and observation will hasten the reform already commenced, and soon our eyes will be no longer saddened by the sight of wretched lunatics smitten down by justice, and the objects of persecutions they cannot comprehend.—*Journal de Médecine*, July, 1855.

HOMICIDAL PROPENSITY DEVELOPED DURING PREGNANCY.—A criminal case, presenting a question of great interest in legal medicine, has recently been brought to trial at the Court of Assizes at Aube. A young woman, of irreproachable character, tenderly attached to her husband, and living with him upon the best of terms, was, nevertheless, accused of attempting to poison him. This unhappy woman denied none of the acts with which she was charged by the prosecution; but her counsel held that the state of pregnancy in which she had been for a short time had perverted her moral faculties, and not left her the free arbiter of her actions. We have here an extract from the indictment, which the depositions of the witnesses and the confessions of the accused fully confirmed.

On the 30th of October, 1854, a man named Baudry, recently discharged from military service, married Louise Yvan, aged eighteen. They resided in the hamlet of Dival, a commune of Villenauxe; and everything, to the eyes of the relatives of the married couple, who frequently visited them, gave proof that they were living together on the best of terms. Sometimes, however, Baudry was struck by strange expressions he heard from his wife. Towards the close of December, while both were busy at their work, she said to her husband, without anything giving occasion for such a remark, "You will die this year; I shall die also."

On the 3rd of January, Baudry, after finishing his work, came in to supper about six o'clock in the evening. After his meal he went to the cupboard for the remainder of some prunes cooked the previous evening, and of which he had eaten the same day at dinner with his mother and his wife. He ate five or six, in which he perceived a bitter taste, which surprised him. The last he put into his mouth caused much pain in his tongue, and he said to his wife, "These prunes are spoiled or poisoned." "Who," she replied, "do you think has poisoned them?" Upon his suggesting that the disagreeable taste, without doubt, proceeded from leaving the prunes in the same dish with the juice, she eagerly availed himself of the explanation, and said, "That is probable." She then put a prune to her own lips, but soon rejected it, saying she should vomit. "You see," said Baudry, "that these prunes are poisoned;" but she did not reply. He proposed keeping them for her niece to eat the following day; but she said it was not necessary to expose that child to sickness, also, and hurried to throw them out of doors. An hour after his repast, Baudry suffered from a violent headache, accompanied by a burning sensation in the stomach, and throughout the night experienced all the symptoms consequent upon the administration of poison. During the whole of this time his wife slept, or pretended to sleep, in the same bed.

The next morning, at six o'clock, Baudry, in arising, placed his hand, in the darkness, upon the pocket of his wife's dress, and felt that it contained little packages rolled up in paper. These inclosed pieces of blue vitriol, and smoking tobacco mixed with powdered vitriol. He said to his wife, "You wish, then, to poison me?" "Yes," she replied "I have had an idea of the kind. I am guilty—kill me."

Prompt remedies soon placed Baudry out of danger. In the presence of the Commissary of Police, and before the neighbors, his wife renewed her avowals. She acknowledged that, having concluded to kill her husband, she had bought some vitriol at the grocer's on the 29th of December. Questioned as to the motive which had induced her to commit the crime, she replied: "For three weeks my husband found fault with all I did: nothing was right. I was full of spite. I regretted the loss of my liberty, and wished to recover it by putting my husband to death." She finally said that she was pregnant, and it was, perhaps, that which had inspired her with the idea of poisoning him.

This is the manner in which she related the facts before the court: "I cannot tell whence I got the idea. We kept house pleasantly together. It was on Thursday, December 28th, that this thought took possession of me—how, I cannot explain. I was unable to resist it, and

formed my resolution. The next day, on my way to market at Villenauze, I asked the grocer, Relif, for a sous-worth of vitriol, and he gave me five or six pieces, each of the size of a large hazel nut. I put them into the pocket of my skirt, where I kept them until the moment of using them. On Thursday evening, January 2nd, after scraping one of the pieces of vitriol, I put it in my husband's smoking tobacco, which he had forgotten, in the cupboard, and the remainder in the prunes, which were to be served next day."

This woman was of Russian origin. Her father, who remained in France after the invasion of 1814, had the reputation of being cruel towards animals, and the accused herself was of a gloomy disposition, and a little harsh. She was industrious, of little intelligence, and sometimes appeared idiotic to such a degree that the children ran after her in the streets. Her conduct had in other respects, been invariably good, and her husband attributing, as did also their neighbors, her criminal action to her pregnancy, insisted that she should be restored to him.

The *ministère public* sustained the prosecution, by questioning how far her pregnancy had controlled the freedom of action of this woman; but the jury, after a few moments' deliberation, brought in a verdict of acquittal.—*Journal de Médecine*, May, 1855.

HOMICIDE.—MENTAL ALIENATION.—The *Gazette Médicale de Lyon* publishes the following account of Jeanne Desroches, who acquired at the time a sad judicial celebrity, and afterwards died at the Asylum of Antiquaille, after a residence of more than twenty years.

On Tuesday, June 2nd, 1832, Jeanne Desroches, who had been married eight years, went from her own dwelling to the village where her mother lived. On the way she entered the house of a couple named Champart, where there were two very young children. She killed one with a knife: the child uttered a single cry and died. After this murder she ran to her mother's house, found her in the stable, gave her a violent blow with a knife, threw her down, and killed her with a pickaxe. She entered a neighboring house, the widow George's, and struck her also several times with the knife. She afterwards went to the house of a woman named Dorneron, and diverting her attention, darted upon her child, inflicting upon its neck a large wound, which was followed by fatal hemorrhage. She also tried to murder the woman Dorneron, but her resistance was too vigorous. Seeing that she was not able to throw her down, she fled to her mother's house, went into the cellar, drew the bung from a cask, and threw into it the instrument of so many murders. She was arrested a few minutes

afterwards, and brought before the assizes of the Rhone. Notwithstanding the deposition of Dr. Bottex, this unhappy woman, who had previously given unequivocal signs of mental disease, was declared guilty of parricide and three premeditated homicides, under extenuating circumstances, and condemned to ten years' hard labor. Soon after her commitment, in a paroxysm of fury, she tore off the ends of two of her fingers with her teeth. After passing about six months in the central house at Montpellier, and nine years and a half in the asylum for the insane of this city, she was transferred to the Antiquaille. From 1842 to 1852 her lucid intervals were more frequent, and one day this unfortunate woman related to her physician, with poignant emotion, even to the minutest details, the events of that frightful morning, during which she killed, among other persons, her mother, "whom she most loved, after her God." Like all the insane, she regretted, but without repentance, since she had acted "in a moment of forgetfulness." She was in all other respects a very honest and highly esteemed woman. She was of robust constitution; was subject to epistaxis; and had had a slight attack a few hours before the murder.

From 1852 until her death she became gradually worse. The lucid intervals were more rare and the maniacal excitement more persistent. During the year 1854 there was, so to speak, no intermission. She changed a little at the approach of death, as is frequently the case with the insane. This maniacal excitement, with general delirium, incoherence of ideas, &c., was remarkable in this respect,—that, under the influence of the least contradiction, or even without any apparent, appreciable cause, she took the character of a true, furious maniac, and her physiognomy assumed a singular expression of ferocity. Nevertheless, no act and no attempt has ever been witnessed to recall the circumstances which marked the access of the disease.—*Journal de Médecine*, May, 1855.

SUMMARY.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF ASYLUMS AND HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—This meeting was held in London, on the 19th of July last.

The President, Dr. Sutherland, having taken the chair, Dr. Thurnam, Medical Superintendent of the Wilts County Asylum, was unanimously elected President of the Association for the ensuing year. In the absence of Dr. Williams, Dr. Stewart was requested to act as Secretary.

After the reading and adoption of the minutes of the preceding meeting, the report of the Committee to revise the rules of the Association was read and discussed.

On motion of Dr. Sutherland, it was resolved, "That the *Asylum Journal* be published quarterly, instead of every six weeks, with an amended type and external cover."

Dr. Stewart moved, that the Annual Meeting for 1856 should be held at Derby, and that Dr. Hitchman, of the Asylum at Mickleover, be President for 1856-7.—Carried.

Mr. Ley, of the County Asylum, Oxfordshire, was appointed Treasurer; Dr. Lockhart Robertson was elected Secretary, in the place of Dr. Williams, resigned; Dr. Browne, of Dumfries, was appointed Honorary Secretary for Scotland, and Dr. Stewart for Ireland.

Dr. Bucknill was requested to continue his services as Editor of the *Journal*, which was carried by acclamation.

The following resolution, proposed by Dr. Hitchman, was carried unanimously: "That the members of the Association be requested to publish their annual reports in an uniform shape, that shape being a medium-sized octavo."

The subject of the deficiency of accommodation in county asylums for the insane poor was then discussed.

Dr. Bucknill called the attention of the meeting to the subject of abuses connected with the domestic treatment of the insane. He proposed the following resolution: "That this Association views with extreme regret the condition in which many insane persons, not paupers, are detained by their relatives, in what is called 'domestic

care;' and this Association believes that legislative enactment is absolutely requisite, which will bring all insane persons whatever under official inspection."

A letter was received from Dr. Erlenmeyer, the Secretary of the German Association of Psychologists, inviting the members to attend their annual meeting, to be held at Vienna, in September.

PRIZE OF THE "SOCIETE MEDICO-PSYCHOLOGIQUE," OFFERED BY M. FERRUS.—The Society, accepting the generous offer of M. Ferrus, announce the following subject for competition, for the year 1857: "A Medico-Psychological Treatise on Cretinism."

The prize is five hundred francs. The word *treatise* is not to be understood in its strict, scholastic signification; it is intended rather to be a medico-psychological memoir on Cretinism—that is, an unpublished work in which the subject is considered in all its points, and some of them, at least, solved. The competitors will thus be enabled more fully to develop that part of the subject which they have particularly studied, taking care, at the same time, to cover the whole subject systematically and concisely, and, in their proper place, give due attention to etiology, pathology, and prophylaxis.

The essays are to be sent to the School of Medicine, before Jan. 20th, 1857, addressed to the General Secretary of the Society. They are to be legibly written, either in Latin or French, and accompanied by a sealed envelope, bearing externally a motto corresponding with one at the head of the manuscript, and having within it the name of the author.

The titular members of the Society and the corresponding members residing in Paris alone are excluded from the competition.—*Revue de Thérapeutique Medico-chirurgicale*, Sept. 17th, 1855.

THE ASYLUM JOURNAL OF MENTAL SCIENCE.—This journal, published by authority of the Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane, and edited by Dr. Bucknill, will hereafter be issued quarterly. The October number, the first of the new series, has been received. The leading article is a review of the Ninth Report of the Commissioners in Lunacy to the Lord Chancellor, by Dr. Bucknill, which we reprint in the present number of the JOURNAL OF INSANITY. The following original communications are presented: a "Lecture, introductory to a course, on the Pathology and Treatment of Insanity," delivered at St. Luke's, by Dr. A. J. Sutherland; "Observations on Convulsions," by Dr. Robert Boyd; "The Military Lunatic Hospital," by C. Lockhart Robertson, M. B.; and "On the Pathology

of the Urine, and the relation which that fluid bears to other Excretions in Mental Diseases," by C. M. Burnett, M. D. Three interesting reviews are next presented—all, as we perceive by the initials, from the pen of Dr. Bucknill. Judicious extracts from foreign journals, legal proceedings, Association notices, and miscellany complete the number.

CASE OF A FOREIGN BODY WITHIN THE CRANIUM.—A correspondent writing from Bonne, in Rhenish Prussia, April 4th, relates the following: In the village of Rheindorf, near our city, M. Peter Klein has recently died at the age of seventy-five, a veteran of the French war, who, at the battle of Austerlitz, Dec. 2nd, 1805, was struck by a Russian ball, which buried itself in his left temple, above the rim of the ear, and remained there until his death—a period of half a century—without ever causing any inconvenience, or producing any change in his intellectual faculties.

After his death, his family, to whom he had bequeathed this ball, to be preserved as a memento of his campaigns, had it extracted by Dr. Backe, of Bonne, who performed this operation with the assistance of a trephine, in such a manner that the ball remained surrounded by a ring formed by the bones of the skull. The ball on the side where it touched the brain was covered with a dense membrane, and upon the other with an investment similar to that elsewhere covering the head. The brain itself was uninjured, and no splintering of the bones of the skull was discovered, either in the neighborhood of the brain or elsewhere.

Scientific men assert that it is without precedent, that a foreign body placed within the skull, as was this ball, has produced no disturbance either in the physical or mental functions.—*Journal de Médecine*, May, 1855.

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF PRETENDED INSANITY.—Among the individuals, nineteen in number, who will be taken to-day from this city, to serve out various terms in the Penitentiary, is Joseph Marshall, convicted of burglary, and under sentence of six years' confinement. For the past five or six weeks he has been feigning insanity, with a furious pertinacity quite remarkable. So violent has he been, that his legs have been secured with a stout chain and his arms heavily shackled. Day after day he has raved for hours, and rolled his eyes, as if suffering spasms of madness. He has worked his mouth until it has frothed like a mad dog's, and made desperate efforts to bite every one who drew near, and has actually, in several cases, succeeded in inflicting painful wounds with his teeth. He has been closely confined in a dungeon, through the bars of which he could be seen rolling, clanking his chain, grating his teeth and howling horridly. He tore his clothes from his person, refused food, and wallowed like a wild beast in the filth. He refused to be shaved, washed, or clothed, and nothing could be done with him but by overpowering violence. It required the best efforts of four strong men to take him to the Court-House, when he made demonstrations as queer and desperate as when in jail. When told to stand up and receive sentence, he refused to do so, and was forcibly held up. The continuance for weeks of such wild behavior shook the opinion that all at first had, that he was feigning; but he gave no mani-

festations of insanity until after he had been captured and in jail for a day or two, and it was rather plain that there was too much method in his madness for the terrible game to win.

Yesterday, finding that there was no hope for him, he gave it up, saying that it was of no use to rave any more, as he was beaten; but such a course had once availed him, and would now, he thought, "if Pruden had not put it to him so tight." He called for a razor, shaved himself neatly, put on clean clothes, and endeavored to be as comfortable as possible under the circumstances. He was much emaciated, and, in his struggles and violent conduct, had injured his person to a considerable extent. He was once a powerful man, and distinguished for feats of agility in a circus to which he was attached. By trade he was a shoemaker. He gives as a reason for committing the burglary, that he had been sick, was destitute of friends and money, and could not get work. He applied to an individual from whom he thought he could get work, if from anybody, and being refused, gave up in despair, and went to stealing.—*Exchange paper.*

GIFT TO THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL.—A beautiful oil painting has been received at the Maryland Hospital for the Insane, with the following note addressed to the Medical Superintendent:

"BALTIMORE, 27th September, 1855.

"To John Fonerden, M. D., Maryland Hospital:

"A friend of your Institution desires to evince an interest in its success, and hoping for a beneficial effect upon some of your patients, begs the Maryland Hospital to accept the accompanying painting—to be placed as you may deem most advantageous.

"It is a copy of Correggio's Holy Family, in the Tribune at Florence, painted from the original by Cephas G. Thompson, of Boston, now residing in Rome."

The painting was sent in an appropriate gilt frame, through the house of Sampson Cariss & Co. It is now placed on an east wall near the principal entrance into the Hospital. The Medical Superintendent presents the thanks of the Institution to the *friend* thereof, who has so acceptably and so gracefully evinced an interest in its success.—*Exchange.*

STATISTICS OF INSANITY IN FRANCE.—From an official document, published by the Ministry of Commerce and Agriculture, on the Statistics of France, it appears that there are at present, for every one hundred thousand of the population, one hundred and five persons blind, eighty-two deaf and dumb, one hundred and twenty-five insane, and one hundred and eighteen goitrous.

NEW ENGLISH LUNACY COMMISSIONER.—Dr. James Wilkes, Medical Superintendent of the Staffordshire Lunatic Asylum, has been appointed Lunacy Commissioner, in place of Dr. Turner, resigned.

RESIGNATIONS, APPOINTMENTS, &c.—Dr. George Chandler, Medical Superintendent of the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester, Mass., has resigned. Dr. Chandler, it will be remembered, was connected with the institution at Worcester, as Assistant Physician, from its opening, in January, 1833, until his appointment to the medical charge of the New Hampshire Asylum for the Insane, in 1842. On the retirement of Dr. Woodward, from the superintendency of the Hospital at Worcester, Dr. Chandler was appointed his successor, and entered upon the duties of the office July 1st, 1846.

At a meeting of the Trustees of the State Lunatic Asylum, at Worcester, Mass., Dec. 11th, 1855, Merrick Bemis, M. D., was unanimously elected Superintendent of the Institution, in the place of Dr. Chandler, resigned. Dr. Bemis has held the office of Assistant Physician to the Hospital for the last seven years, and is eminently qualified for the arduous and responsible office to which he has been elected.

Dr. E. H. Van Deusen, First Assistant Physician at the New York State Lunatic Asylum, has been appointed Physician and Superintendent of the Michigan Asylum for the Insane.

OBITUARY.

Died at Albany, November 19th, 1855, T. ROMEYN BECK, M. D., LL. D., in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

At a meeting of the MANAGERS of the NEW YORK STATE LUNATIC ASYLUM held at Utica, on the twenty-first day of November, 1855, it was

Resolved, That the intelligence of the death of Dr. T. ROMEYN BECK, the President of this Board, has been received with deep regret and sorrow; that this Institution, from its commencement, has been greatly indebted to him for his wise counsels, his judicious and efficient action, his integrity and independence in pursuing the path of duty, his warm sympathy with its officers and the afflicted subjects of its care, and his prompt and hearty devotion to all its interests; and that, in his removal, it has suffered a loss which is painfully felt, and which can hardly be repaired. And that the individual members of this Board, remembering his great private as well as public worth, and having in mind the unbroken kindness and harmony which have prevailed in their association with him, feel his death to be a severe personal affliction.

Resolved, as a token of respect to his memory, that his funeral be attended by the Superintendent of the Asylum, and so many of the Managers as shall be able to accompany him to Albany.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Dr. Beck.

“CHARLES A. MANN, Chairman.

“E. A. WETMORE, Secretary.”

The *Albany Journal*, in announcing the death of this eminent and universally-honored citizen, remarks:

"Dr. Beck's mission was one of practical usefulness. During the quarter of a century that he devoted himself laboriously to the instruction of youth, as the principal of our Academy, people wondered how a man so gifted could content himself with a position so comparatively humble. The answer is, that Dr. Beck was unselfish and unambitious. He loved his school, his friends, his associates, and, above all, his home. These were, to him, sources of happiness too precious to be sacrificed. He pursued, therefore, with all diligence and cheerfulness the 'even tenor of his way,' raising up generation after generation of thoroughly-educated young men, whose first duty and highest privilege, through life, has been to acknowledge, with grateful hearts, obligations to their beloved instructor.

"Dr. Beck aimed to render all his scientific and literary acquirements available. His knowledge was held in trust for the benefit of others. His mind, like a tree upon a common, bore fruit for the community. He was a man of simple manners, genial nature, social habits, large humanity, and radiant faith. Almost half a century was passed among us in the active discharge of responsible public duties. His efforts to promote education, science, improvement, virtue, and Christianity were always well and wisely directed.

"Dr. Beck's associations, through life, have been with the truly good and great. His society was sought by all who appreciated public worth and social excellence. Those who, for so many years, enjoyed both in their daily intercourse with him, while deploring his loss, will cherish his memory. But to other hearts—hearts with which his own was intertwined—the bereavement comes with a crushing weight. In the halls his presence brightened and gladdened, there is now darkness and sorrow."

Died, at his residence in Utica, on the 29th of December, NICHOLAS DEVEREUX, Esq., one of the Managers of the New York State Lunatic Asylum. At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the institution, held on the thirty-first day of December, it was unanimously

"*Resolved*, That we have received with feelings of deep regret and sorrow, the intelligence of the death of NICHOLAS DEVEREUX, Esq., another of our number who has for the last fourteen years been associated with the officers of this institution in its care and management, and who has ever manifested a warm interest in its welfare, and assiduously labored to promote its usefulness and prosperity.

"*Resolved*, That we tender to the afflicted widow and relatives of the deceased our heartfelt sympathy for the great loss they have sustained.

"*Resolved*, That, as a token of respect to the memory of the deceased, we will attend his funeral in a body.

"*Resolved*, That these resolutions be entered on the record of our proceedings, and that a copy thereof be furnished to the widow of the deceased.

"CHARLES A. MANN, Chairman."

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

☞ Since our last issue the following Books and Journals have been received in exchange or otherwise :

Scenes in the Practice of a New York Surgeon. By Edward H. Dixon, M. D., Editor of the Scalpel. With illustrations, by Darley. Pp. 407. Dewitt and Davenport, New York. (From the publishers.)

Annual Report of the City Inspector of the City of New York, for the year ending December 31st, 1854.

Report of the Hygometrical State of the Atmosphere in various localities, and its influence on Health. By Sanford B. Hunt, M. D., Buffalo, N. Y. Extracted from the Transactions of the American Medical Association. Philadelphia, 1855.

Discovery of the Cause, Nature, and Prevention of Epidemic Cholera. By M. L. Knapp, M. D. Cincinnati. 1855.

Introductory Address. Delivered to the Class of the Medical Department of the Iowa State University, at the opening of the course of 1855-6. By John R. Allen, M. D. Published by the Class. Keokuk, Iowa. 1855.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

Annales Médico-Psychologiques. Par MM. Les Docteurs Baillarger, Cerise, et Moreau. Paris. July, 1855.

Bulletin de L'Académie Impériale de Médecine. Paris. Tome XX, Nos. 21, 22, 23, 24; and XXI, Nos. 1 and 2.

Gazette Médicale de Paris. Paris. Tome X, Nos. 32 and 46 inclusive. (No. 33 and 42 not received.)

Journal de Médecine et de Chirurgie. Paris. August, September, and October, 1855.

Revue de Thérapeutique Médico-Chirurgicale. Paris, 1855. Nos. 16 and 21, inclusive.

The Asylum Journal. Published by authority of the Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane. London. Quarterly. October, 1855.

British and Foreign Medico-Chirurgical Review. Oct. Republished by S. S. & W. Wood, New York, 1855. Quarterly.

The London Lancet. Edited by Thomas Wakely, Surgeon. J. H. Bennett, M. D., and T. R. Wakely, Jr., M. R. C. S., Sub-Editors. Republished in New York by Stringer & Townsend. 1855. October, November and December received.

The Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science. Quarterly. No. XL. November, 1855. (No. XXXIX not received.)

The Dublin Medical Press. Dublin. Weekly. Nos. 871 and 884 inclusive.

AMERICAN EXCHANGES.

New York Journal of Medicine and the Collateral Sciences. Edited by Samuel S. Purple, M. D., and Stephen Smith, M. D. Bi-monthly. November, 1855.

New York Medical Times. Edited by H. D. Bulkley, M. D., New York. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855, and January, 1856.

American Medical Monthly. Edited by Edward H. Parker, M. D. New-York. October and December. (November not received.)

The Scalpel; an entirely original Quarterly Expositor of the Laws of Health, and Abuses of Medicine and Domestic Life. Edited by Edward H. Dixon, M. D. New York. October, 1855.

New York Medical Gazette and Journal of Health. Edited by D. M. Reese, M. D., LL. D., and C. D. Griswold, M. D., Assistant Editor. New York. Monthly. August, 1855.

Buffalo Medical Journal and Monthly Review of Medical and Surgical Science. Sanford B. Hunt, M. D., Editor. Buffalo, N. Y. Monthly. October, November, and December.

Nelson's American Lancet. Edited by Horace Nelson, M. D., and Dr. Alfred Nelson. Plattsburgh, N. Y. August and September, and Nos. 1, 2, and 3 of weekly issue.

Boston Medical and Surgical Journal. Edited by J. V. C. Smith, M. D., assisted by Wm. W. Morland, M. D., and Francis Minot, M. D. Boston. Weekly. Vol. LIII, Nos. 1 and 21, inclusive. (No. 2 not received.)

The New Jersey Medical Reporter; a Monthly Journal of Medical and Surgical Science. Edited by S. W. Butler, M. D., Burlington, N. J. October, November, and December, 1855.

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M. D. Philadelphia. Quarterly. October, 1855.

The Medical Examiner, a Monthly Record of Medical Science. Edited by Samuel L. Hollingsworth, M. D. Philadelphia. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855.

Quarterly Summary of the Transactions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. From May 2d, 1855, to Oct. 3, 1855. Philadelphia.

Medical News and Library. Philadelphia. Monthly. October. and December. (November not received.)

The American Journal of Dental Science. Edited by Chapin A. Harris, M. D., D. D. S., and A. Snowdon Piggot, M. D. Philadelphia. Quarterly. October, 1855.

The Pennsylvania Journal of Prison Discipline and Philanthropy. Published quarterly, under the direction of the "Philadelphia Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons;" instituted 1787. Philadelphia. October, 1855.

Journal of the Franklin Institute, of the State of Pennsylvania, for the Promotion of the Mechanic Arts. Edited by John F. Frazer, assisted by the Committee on Publication of the Franklin Institute. Philadelphia. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855.

The Dental News Letter. Philadelphia. Quarterly. October, 1855.

American Journal of Pharmacy; published by authority of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Edited by William Proctor, Jr., Professor of Pharmacy in the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Bi-monthly. November, 1855.

New Hampshire Journal of Medicine. Edited by Geo. H. Hubbard, M. D., and Chas. Bell, M. D. Concord. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855.

The Medical Chronicle, or Montreal Monthly Journal of Medicine and Surgery. Edited by W. Wright, M. D., and D. C. MacCallum, M. D. Montreal. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855.

The Stethoscope: a Monthly Journal of Medicine and the Collateral Sciences. Edited by G. A. Wilson, M. D., and R. A. Lewis, M. D. Richmond, Va. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855.

Virginia Medical and Surgical Journal. Editors, James B. McCaw, M. D., and J. F. Peebles, M. D. G. A. Otis, M. D., Corresponding Editor. Richmond, Va. Monthly. October, November, and Dec.

Charleston Medical Journal and Review. Edited and published by C. Happoldt, M. D., assisted by J. Cain, M. D., and F. Peyre Porcher, M. D. Charleston, S. C. Bi-monthly. November, 1855.

Southern Medical and Surgical Journal. Edited by L. A. Dugas, M. D., and Henry Rossignol, M. D. Augusta, Ga. Monthly. November, and December. (October not received.)

Atlanta Medical and Surgical Journal. Edited by Joseph P. Logan, M. D., and W. F. Westmoreland, M. D. Atlanta, Ga. Monthly. October, November, and December, 1855.

New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal. Edited by B. Dowler, M. D. New Orleans. Bi-monthly. November, 1855.

Nashville Journal of Medicine and Surgery. Edited by W. K. Bowling, M. D., assisted by Paul F. Eve, M. D. Nashville, Tenn. Monthly. October, November, and December.

The Southern Journal of the Medical and Physical Sciences, edited by W. P. Jones, M. D., John W. King, M. D., and Richard O. Curry, M. D. Knoxville, Tenn. Bi-monthly. September, 1855.

Memphis Medical Recorder. Published Bi-monthly by the Memphis Medical College. Edited by A. P. Merrill, M. D. Memphis. Nov.

The Western Journal of Medicine and Surgery. Edited by Lunsford P. Yandell, M. D. Louisville, Ky. Monthly. September, 1855.

St. Louis Medical and Surgical Journal. Edited by Drs. M. L. Linton, W. M. McPheeters, John S. Moore, and J. R. Allen. Bi-monthly. November.

The Peninsular Journal of Medicine and the Collateral Sciences. Edited by Drs. Pitcher, Palmer, Brodie, and Christian. Ann Arbor, Michigan. October, November, and December.

The North-Western Medical and Surgical Journal. Edited by H. A. Johnson, A. M., M. D., and N. S. Davis, M. D. Chicago. Monthly. September, October, and November, 1855.

Western Lancet; a Monthly Journal of Practical Medicine and Surgery. T. Wood, M. D., Editor and Proprietor. Cincinnati, Ohio. October, November, and December.

Iowa Medical Journal. Conducted by the Faculty of the Medical Department of the Iowa University. Keokuk, Iowa. Monthly. August and September.